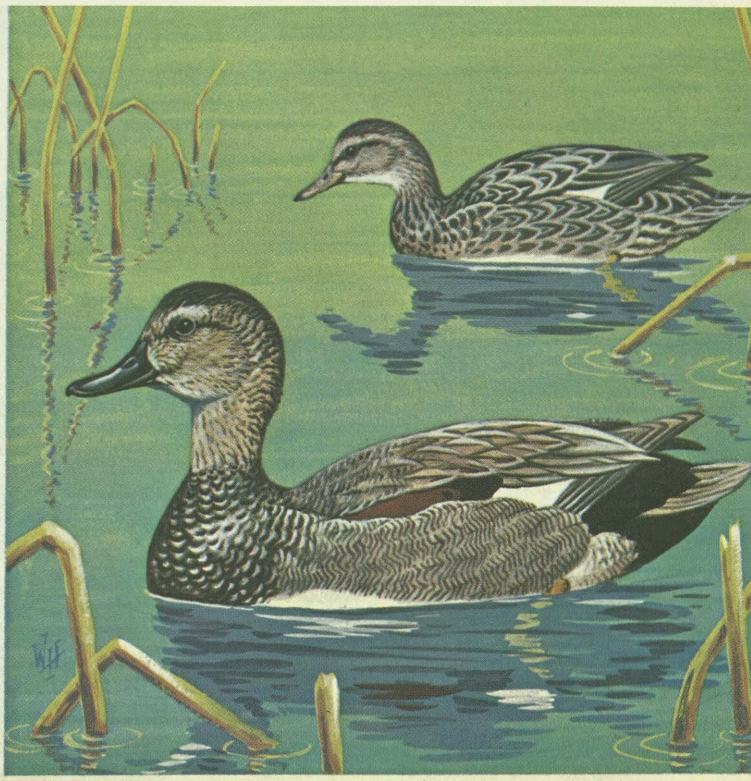
Florida WILDLIFE

Fishing · Hunting · Conservation · Outdoor Recreation

That Old Fall Fever
Wildlife Management Areas

DECEMBER 1964 — *The Florida Magazine for all Sportsmen* — 25 CENTS



FLORIDA

WILDLIFE SCRAPBOOK

BIRDS OF FLORIDA

A COMMON RESIDENT OF CENTRAL FLORIDA'S PRAIRIE REGION • BOTH VULTURE AND HAWK-LIKE IN MANNERISMS • CARRION FORMS A LARGE PART OF ITS DIET • ALSO EATS SNAKES, LIZARDS, TURTLES, RATS, MICE & INSECTS WHICH IT CAPTURES ALIVE

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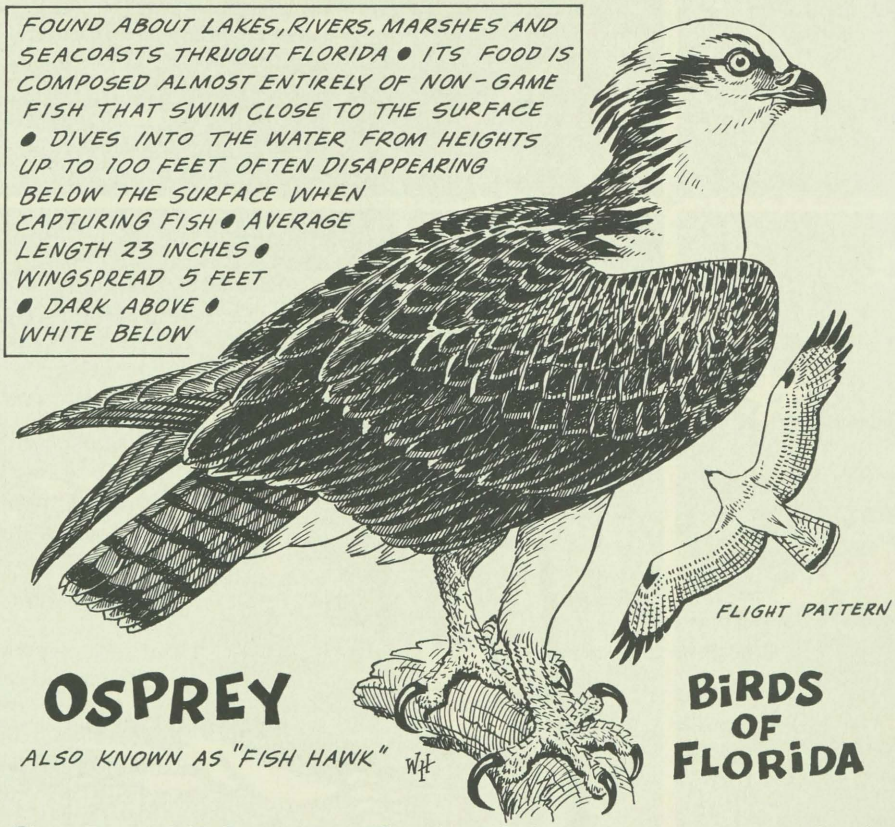

OSPREY

ALSO KNOWN AS "FISH HAWK"

BIRDS OF FLORIDA

FLORIDA GAME AND FRESH WATER FISH COMMISSION

VOLUME 18 NO. 7

Florida WILDLIFE

DECEMBER, 1964

★

Published monthly by the
FLORIDA GAME AND FRESH WATER FISH COMMISSION
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★

**Dedicated to the
Conservation, Restoration, and Protection of our Game and Fish**

★

BILL HANSEN, Editor

WALLACE HUGHES, Art Director **C. L. SATTERFIELD, Circulation**

In This Issue

That Old Fall Fever ..... Edmund McLaurin 12

Florida's Future ..... S. L. Beckwith 18

Wildlife Management Area Regulations 23

Tree Planting Season ..... Richard Fogarty 30

Hunting Season Regulations 1964-65 32

Departments

Conservation Scene ..... 4 **Fishing** 8

Muzzle Flashes ..... 6 **Dogs—Hunting** 10

Boating 35

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O. EARLE FRYE, Assistant Director

JOEL McKINNON
Administrative Assistant

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H. E. WALLACE
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Chief, Law Enforcement

JAMES FLOYD
Chief, Information-Education

★

RHETT McMILLIAN
Chief, Communications Division
Federal Communications Bldg.
New Smyrna Beach

★

Northwest Region

JOHN T. BROWN, Regional Manager
226 Airport Drive
Box 576—Phone SU 5-5352
Panama City, Florida

Northeast Region

BRANTLEY GOODSON
Regional Manager
Box 908, Phone 752-0353
Lake City, Florida

Central Region

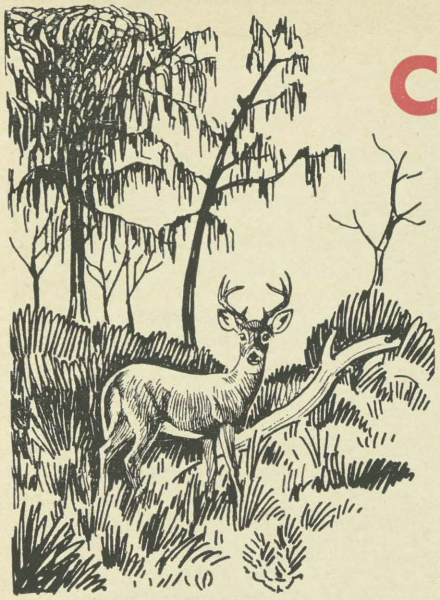
J. W. BICKERSTAFF, Regional Manager
2520 E. Silver Springs Blvd.
629-2802
Ocala, Florida

Southern Region

J. O. BROWN, Regional Manager
2202 Lakeland Hills Blvd.
MUtual 6-8157
Lakeland, Florida

Everglades Region

LOUIS F. GAINEY, Regional Manager
551 No. Military Trail
Phone OVerland 3-0748
West Palm Beach, Florida



CONSERVATION SCENE

Florida Wildlife Research Progress Report

Manual for Public Park Shooting Ranges

SIX NEW FISH management areas were established at the meeting of the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission at Silver Springs, September 25. The new areas are Lake Francis and Red Beach Lake in Highlands County; Watertown Lake in Columbia County; Lake Talquin in Leon and Gadsden Counties; Lake Eaton in Marion County and Lake Dias in Volusia County.

At the meeting, the Commission reviewed a proposal from a Lake County delegation regarding a proposed seining research program for Lake Griffin. Lake Griffin is presently being treated for rough fish removal by chemical under a cooperative agreement with the Leesburg Chamber of Commerce.

Other Commission action authorized issuance of orders allowing hunting on managed dove fields and to declare hogs game animals on the Point Washington Wildlife Management Area in Bay and Walton Counties; established a wildlife refuge in Glades County adjoining the Fisheating Creek Wildlife Management Area; established a policy regarding the wearing of the new Commission uniforms; approved construction of sanitary facilities at the Commission's Youth Conservation Camp, and awarded bids for new radio communication equipment and construction work on Everglades recreation sites number two and thirteen in Broward County.

The Commission also reviewed and rejected a request to eliminate fox hunting on the Point Washington area, and approved a sale proposal on timber at the Winter Haven Fish Hatchery.

Christmas Shopping

MORE THAN 600,000 conservationists and members of the National Wildlife Federation are getting a chance to do their Christmas shopping early this year.

Judge Louis D. McGregor, President of the big citizen's conservation organization, announces the Federation is presently distributing its ninth consecutive issue of Wildlife Christmas Stamps. The 1964 edition consists of 50 colorful stamps depicting wild turkey, moose, hairy woodpecker, red-breasted nuthatch, cottontail rabbit and cardinal in winter settings. The stamps are packaged in booklet form and contain educational descriptions and range maps of each species. Reproduced from paintings by Lois and Louis Darling, free lance writers and artists, and Don L. Malick, staff artist with the Denver Museum of Natural History, the stamps are designed for decorative use on Christmas card envelopes, place cards, packages, letters and yuletide gifts.

The National Wildlife Federation has also begun distribution of four new Christmas greeting cards and a number of new stationery sets, desk accessories, wildlife games, bird records, and other nature-related gifts. All proceeds from the sale of cards, stamps and merchandise are used to support the Federation's extensive conservation information and education programs.

Catalogs describing these Christmas cards and gifts are available from: National Wildlife Federation, 1412 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

Eagle Sanctuaries

SANCTUARIES FOR THE protection of the Bald Eagle, America's National Bird, established by the Florida Audubon Society, now contain more than 2,300,000 acres in Florida, according to an announcement from Audubon House in Maitland. These sanctuaries have been established through the cooperation of ranchers, foresters, real estate developers and owners of smaller properties. This extensive area is controlled by over a hundred property owners and contains well over a hundred active eagle nests. Some nests, now inactive, may be used again in the future as their eagle owners often rebuild them.

(*Continued on Page 37*)

THE COVER

Know Your Waterfowl—Top panels; left, Blue Wing Teal; right, the Gadwall. Lower panels; at left, the Florida Duck, and at right the Redbreasted Merganser. Male ducks appear in the foreground of each panel; female ducks in the background.

From Paintings By Wallace Hughes

Recreation Guide

AN UP-TO-DATE edition of a practical guide for effective citizen action to help meet growing outdoor recreation and open space needs is now available.

The guide—"Action for Outdoor Recreation for America"—illustrates with case histories what can be accomplished through vigorous citizen leadership of local and state planning and action programs in this field.

The 40-page booklet describes a wide range of new financial and legal tools now available to states and communities to acquire and develop balanced systems of park, fish and wildlife, shoreline and other kinds of outdoor areas and to enhance the quality of the total outdoor environment, urban and rural.

In a foreword, Laurance S. Rockefeller identifies the Land and Water Conservation Fund matching-grant program, authorized by Congress last month, as an especially significant new tool to "help private citizens and public officials at all levels acquire the areas and develop the facilities needed for the future."

"As civic leaders across the country begin to use these new tools in developing more adequate outdoor recreation programs" this booklet "will help provide perspective for evaluating state and local needs and suggest ways to make the most of specific opportunities," Mr. Rockefeller said.

The booklet includes a concise digest of the action recommendations of the Report of the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission (ORRRC). It describes pioneering state actions, private organizations which can help and other aids.

Single copies are available free from the Citizens Committee for the ORRRC Report, 1001 Connecticut Ave., Washington, D. C. 20036. Non-profit groups may order quantities of 10 or more at 10 cents each. It is an expanded, updated revision of a first edition published last year. ●

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Here is a 12-in-1 gift that is perfect for your relatives, friends and business associates who like to hunt and fish in Florida . . . .

A hand-signed gift card will tell each friend that YOU have given them a whole year of arm-chair hunting and fishing in the Sunshine State.

MUZZLE FLASHES

Field Notes

Where a number of guns must be maintained, proper accessories, in variety, makes the job easier

By EDMUND McLAURIN

IF YOU THINK YOU HAD hunting competition last hunting season, and again encountered strong rivalry this season, you've merely experienced a sampling of what's ahead.

Statistics show that the sport of hunting is booming, in step with our national population. During the 1963-64 hunting season there were some 19 million hunters afield or roaming our forests, nationwide.

The total licensed hunters for the 1964-65 season will not be known until the individual states make reports, for statistical compilation, about this time next year, but it is a sure thing that the 19 million figure will be exceeded.

Fortunately, many hunted game species are also on the increase—thanks to common sense game management programs and closely supervised annual harvesting. So conscientiously have game biologists applied their field research that they know quite accurately just how many game animals and birds may be taken without depleting basic breeding stock.

In companion vein, more hunting land is being opened up to public use, through improved relations with landowners and repeal of the individual landowner's former legal liability to hunters using private property.

The future of hunting looks rosier than the increase in the number of licensed hunters implies.

ONE OF THE MOST useful and enjoyed items I've carried afield the past two years has been a folding aluminum-frame Kamo stool, as made by Camouflage Mfg. Company, Jacksonville. The seat, made of five color camouflaged canvas, has a zippered carry-all bag underneath, and there is an adjustable carrying strap that permits the lightweight stool to be carried in almost any fashion. In the bag, I usually carry all the little items a fellow needs afield, depending on the type of gun hunting or archery activity momentarily being enjoyed.

The stool makes an excellent and comfortable seat in the knee high grass of a dove field or while occupying a deep woods' deer stand for long, often cold, hours.

Before obtaining the Kamo stool, I carried miscellaneous gear in a small shoulder bag, and a camp stool in a free hand; now, the Kamo bag does a combined job.

INSTALLATION OF A rubber recoil pad on the butt-stock of a rifle of noticeable recoil or on a shoulder-punishing shotgun adds immeasurably to shooting comfort.

It also increases overall stock length and length of pull unless butt section wood equal to the thickness of the pad is first removed. (This can easily be done with a mitre box, or by any craftsman who knows how to handle a fine-toothed saw skillfully.) Wood splintering at the edges of the cut can be largely prevented by first wrapping the working area with adhesive tape and marking thereon the saw guide line.

But many shooters hesitate to make installation of a fine quality, useful pad, like the lifetime Pachmayr "White Line," simply because sad past experience has indicated that they cannot always be sure of a neatly finished job. At the same time, for reasons unknown, they seem reluctant to turn the job over to a gunsmith having both tools and knowledge. (The average installation charge is only about $3.00, plus cost of pad.)

For these either reluctant or timid souls, I can only suggest they make the shortening stock-cut as neatly as they can, after careful taping, measuring and marking, then cover the raw wood with a slip-on, boot style, rubber butt-plate pad of proper size. Such slip-ons can be had in Pachmayr-Mershon, Red Head and Black Sheep brands, and their cost is only $1.50 or $2.00.

WHAT WITH AUTHORIZED sales of many thousands of surplus .30M1 Carbine rifles to members of the National Rifle Association at the irresistible price of $20, F.O.B. Army arsenals, and the general availability of war surplus or privately manufactured versions offered by mail-order sources, the need for M1 Carbine headspace check gauges has developed.

Unless they have proper headspace, within allowed minimum and maximum tolerances, .30M1 Carbines simply will not function accurately—and likewise may be decidedly unsafe to shoot. Checking headspace in an M1 Carbine before you shoot it the first time after acquisition, and periodically thereafter, is simply good sense.

Forester-Appelt, Inc., manufacturing gunsmiths of Lanark, Illinois, can furnish headspace gauges to check the safety of M1 Carbines. They are $4.50 each, or $13.50 for a set of "Go," "No-Go" and "Field" gauges. When owned by an organized club, a set can be economically used to serve many individual M1 Carbine owners.

JUST MENTION planned inclusion of a powdered egg product in camp-out rations and you're pretty sure to get unquestionable expressions of disgust from any ex-GI in the party. From eating experience, I can say that his apathy for the war-time mixtures has sound justification!

However, since the war, the food packaging companies have conducted extensive research, with the idea of improving both taste and desire for powdered products. That they have succeeded is obvious by the many delicious "instant" foods to be found on grocery shelves, packaged by brand names that cannot afford to be associated with anything except the best in food concoctions.

The Borden Company, for example, has even licked the established bias against dried eggs. Now you can get four "instant" omelet mixes—prepared cheese, mushroom, ham and Western recipes—that permit preparation of tasty omelet dishes in five minutes. All the basic ingredients are contained in the sealed packages; the only thing you add is ¾ cup of water. Each package serves three persons, or two really hungry ones full plate style.

The mixes are great for extended camping trips, family cookouts, boating picnics and tasty breakfast meals that hungry hunters and fishermen want to get under their belts in a hurry. Most supermarkets now have the new Borden omelet mixes.

PLINKING WITH A .22 caliber rifle at small blocks of wood, empty 35mm film cans and similar informal targets is fun, but it calls for plenty of ammunition, what with the tendency to unlimber numerous fast shots and follow-ups.

Anything less than a rifle of repeating type is too slow of loading to be of much pleasure to the true plinker. The more quickly he can stuff ammunition into his rifle's magazine, the greater his satisfaction as he starts to mow down improvised target set-ups. Many of the current clip-loading .22 rimfire rifles are nicely balanced and accurate; their lack as rifles ideal for plinking stems from the fact that clips tend to get empty at astonishing and annoying rate. It seems that a plinker with a clip-magazine rifle is *always* loading up for his next stage of firing. Even a tubular magazine model slide-action or autoloader needs frequent reloading when used by an enthusiastic plinker.

Long ago, I made up twelve individual aluminum loading tubes, for faster loading. Each tube holds approximately thirteen long rifle cartridges, with a combined total of 156 shots. The tubes are filled at home and are ready to use when I decide to go out for a couple of hours shooting. Loading of tubular magazine style repeating rifles is greatly simplified and speeded up.

ANYONE WHO LOVES guns invariably also enjoys reading about them. My own appetite for gun subject texts seems insatiable.

Even if I didn't read extensively as derived pleasure, I would of necessity have to peruse technical publications periodically. It is impossible for a gun editor to keep all gun information accurately in mind; ballistics' tables, for example, must be frequently consulted for exact figures, even though there may be little doubt about impromptu conclusions.

I would literally be "lost" without certain basic publications.

(*Continued on page 38*)

Statistics show that the sport of hunting is booming—but so are game populations. The hunting future looks rosier than increased hunter numbers imply.

FISHING

Shad Fishing

There are advantages in carrying along small motors and using boat rentals for fishing journeys

By CHARLES WATERMAN

DECEMBER MEANS shad fishing in the St. Johns River—probably the easiest of all fresh water angling to get started at if you have a boat.

I don't downrate the real shad experts who make a science of it and catch many more than their share but almost anyone who can hold a rod can catch shad. Many tourists have heard of it and want details.

We've had shad stories in FLORIDA WILDLIFE from time to time but we need something on it every year and this is a very brief outline of method.

There are numerous shad-trolling areas along the river. The best known are near Sanford and you'll hear more about Lemon Bluff than any other.

The accepted method is slow trolling and there are usually enough fishermen that you can see what they're doing. Tackle store operators all over the area will give you the run-down and supply you with "shad rigs," usually two small lures which are run in tandem; one of them going considerably deeper than the other.

If you can get into a general area where shad are being caught, you can find the hot spots by simply watching for busy shad fishermen.

Shad will run all winter and well into the spring months. They're salt water fish that come upstream to spawn. Shad roe is a delicacy. The quality of the remainder of the fish is subject to some disagreement.

Most of the trollers use light tackle with monofilament line. A shad is a persistant fighter and something of a jumper. His mouth isn't tough.

Depth of trolling must be learned by experimentation.

Active shad can be located sometimes by their rolling which the old-timers call "washing."

There are some areas where there are enough boats operating that you don't even have to fish when things are slow. You can watch the other boats and get into the act only when business is good.

Casting for shad is successful at times but uphill business when there's a large crowd of trollers. You get in their way. It can get to be quite a parade with a dozen or so boats working a small area on weekends. Water-skiers and speeding boats don't help at such times.

YOU WON'T WIN the Miami-Nassau race with a nine-something horsepower motor but it will usually plane a rented skiff with two or possibly three fishermen aboard.

Generally the minimum power that will get a rental boat up on top is about seven horsepower. With two persons aboard, the issue is in doubt.

Of course smaller motors will plane extra-light boats but most rental skiffs are too big and heavy for them. The rental craft isn't sure just what will be clamped on next and has to be ready for anything within reason.

Florida has the rental boats—good ones. Fishermen are so sold on owning their own craft lots of them forget the convenience of the boat livery.

It's fine to have your own but the day of the slowly sinking, rustynailed scow is over. State licensing standards and a general facelifting in the fishing resort business have produced the best of rental boats.

The majority of these boats are rated to use almost any motor you'd want to carry in your car. Family boats are apt to be a bit too gadgeted for the best fishing. If you don't want to own two boats, the rental skiff is a good bet.

A compact motor and small emergency tool kit is all the tourist needs to sample a few thousand miles of Florida waterways.

How big?

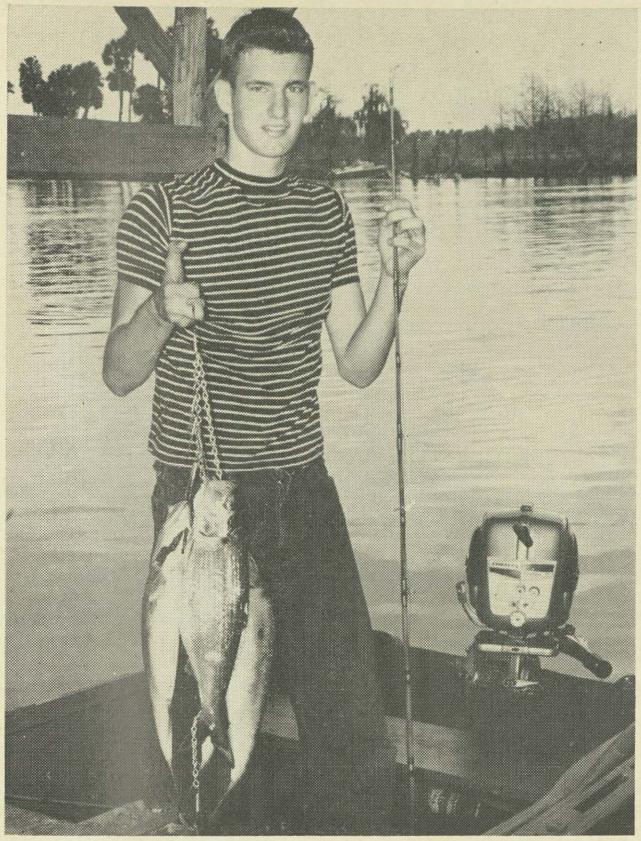
Well, I lean toward the aforementioned motors in the 10-horse class—some of which have been built to stow in any car trunk. Even the bulkiest of those in this power can be juggled by the man at the dock if you aren't up to it.

An advantage of using rental boats is the fishing dope available at most resorts. You may miss these tidbits of fishology if you slide your own yacht down a public launching ramp.

Of course you CAN have bad luck with a rental boat. At well-patronized liveries you can be pretty sure the boat is in good shape but it doesn't hurt to take a quick look for yourself before buzzing off to the horizon. If there's anything wrong it's likely to be in the transom area.

Besides safety, there's another reason for looking things over.

Even an honest, well-meaning livery operator



Typical Florida shad caught at Lemon Bluff on the St. Johns River. Slow trolling is the most popular and successful method.

might not notice serious damage done by a previous user and it would be a shame to be honestly blamed for something someone else had done.

Rental boats lead a rough life and their owners expect them to suffer from hazards of operation. It's good to report anything damaging that may have happened to a rental skiff. Generally, unless it's a result of gross neglect, the owner of the boat won't blame you.

I know some rather bitter dock operators, however. They've had people bring seriously damaged boats back to them and then sneak off to their cars without reporting.

Renting motors is something else again. In Florida, 99% of the rental motors are made by three companies. The "regular" who frequently uses rental motors probably knows how to operate them but I've seen quite a few fishermen take off with motors they didn't understand and I've seen some of them rowing back.

The fellow who does a lot of Florida fishing generally has a motor of his own. Resort people assume the guy who rents a motor doesn't know too much about it so don't be offended if they give you a short course in its characteristics.

I know some salt water operators who have given up motor rentals, saying they just couldn't keep them running. In some waters it is remarkable how the public can tear them up.

I heard one fellow say his engines averaged less than eight hours of rental between minor repairs and general overhauls were absurdly frequent.

DON'T LAUGH. If you want to do something that takes skill, try playing a big fish on a light handline. Handliners have a reputation for using heavy tackle and simply yanking them aboard but if you use light stuff and can get it where fish are striking you will feel pretty lonesome without the rod to take up slack, give line gracefully and cover up your blunders.

Just what to do with the extra line you're using for fish playing can become a problem. If it's simply wrapped around a stick or coiled in a boat you may end up needing extra hands.

So if you get so good with regular tackle that it becomes boring, try a handline.

I'm only kidding. It would drive you nuts!

THERE ARE THREE ways of installing insect repellent now: The rub-on way out of a bottle, the spray method with the pressure can, and the saturated tissue business.

"Barrier," a repellent put out by Sterno, comes in small, saturated tissue sheets and smells good. The moist tissue is contained in a handy little sealed, plastic envelope. You're not supposed to put it on the bare skin but you swab it over your clothing. Like some other repellents, Barrier isn't safe to use around certain plastics. They say you shouldn't wipe it on rayon acetate, rayon, saran or dynel and that it's apt to damage plastic eyeglass rims.

These taboos hold for a lot of other chemicals.

You can be allergic to certain insect repellents. It's best to use them in moderation until you're certain they won't harm your skin. I've known some fishermen who overdid repellent use to the point of serious skin damage.

"Barrier" is a good product.

I'VE HEARD THAT too much bathing is sure to attract red bugs (chiggers). Don't know how true it is but they say if you'll go easy on the soap and water chiggers aren't so friendly.

Most insect repellents work on red bugs for most people.

SINGLE HOOK numbers come in for a lot of selection but not many fishermen can tell you anything about the size of trebles on their pet plugs.

Long as they don't bend it doesn't make much difference, they figure.

For fish that hit hard, a big hook may be best. It won't bend and it's less likely to tear out once it's in. Fishing heavy grass flats, it's a good choice. You horse fish out of cover and there's lots of pressure.

The first I heard of the small treble theory was in

(*Continued on page 38*)

DOGS

Hunting - Trials - Training

The hunting dog — a friend, companion and an invaluable guide to game

By JIM FLOYD

ONE OF THE FASTEST growing sporting dog organizations may well be the Northwest Florida Pointer and Setter Club, located in Pensacola, Escambia County. I had the opportunity to meet with this group several weeks ago and must say they did impress me with the turnout at their annual meeting. There can be little question as to the success of this group after viewing their accomplishments during the past year.

As of September 1, 1964, the club membership roster included one hundred names; however, the measure of success is not in membership strength but in membership activity and this club has really gone overboard with the work. The Northwest Florida Pointer and Setter Club took the bull by the horns and purchased their own tractor in order that they might start on a food and cover planting program for the bobwhite population.

The club has planted 400 food plots for quail with this tractor and other equipment that was borrowed from local farmers and contributed by members of the club. The seed and fertilizer for the quail food plots was furnished by the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, but it was the club and its members that did the work in site preparation, planting, fertilizing and cultivation. This work was not the results of a few working members but the combined efforts of all the members.

In addition to the planting of food plots which should increase the quail population, the club has been active in setting aside a 3,000 acre field trial area in the new St. Regis Wildlife Management Area. Club members are pitching right in and helping with the posting of this trial area.

The purpose of the Northwest Florida Pointer and Setter Club is spelled out in simple terms and includes only four points.

1. To promote conservation in Northwest Florida.
2. To provide food plots and increase the population of quail.
3. To promote interest in field trials and to conduct both amateur and open trials.
4. To promote better relations between sportsmen and landowners.

It is apparent that in addition to being classified as a sporting dog club, it can also be classified as a sportsman's club. At any rate, it is a club not content to sit on their hind quarters and bark for aid and assistance. If the dogs owned by the membership are anywhere as big running as the members, then there should be some field trial honors going to this group.

For a young trial club this group has bitten off a big chunk with their plans for an Open Field Trial on December 14, with a guaranteed purse of $1,200. When I expressed some concern over the possibility of the activity falling flat on its face, I was relieved to find that considerable leg work had already been done in regard to this event. A quick check indicates that on this date the field trial activity of other clubs will be limited and no direct competition for dogs and handlers. A healthy percentage of the dog handlers will be in the southern circuit at this time and nothing to prevent them from participating in this trial. Perhaps the most important thing is the confidence of the members plus the support of the entire membership and that in itself can often make the difference between a successful trial and a mediocre one. While I don't have a crystal ball, I predict that this will be a trial to enter if you have a bird dog worthy of bragging talk. If you don't have a bird dog, I think the travel would be well spent just to observe.

New Collars Protect Hunting Dogs

HUNTING DOGS THAT do not want to get lost should know about a couple of new style collars available for the first time this year. One of these new canine neckties is dyed a brilliant blaze orange, highly visible through the brush even on the darkest days.

This flashy collar is an idea worked out by Bill Boatman of Bainbridge, Ohio, to help him keep track of his coon hounds and bird dogs. "It's especially good," says Boatman, "at field trials where you sometimes want to identify your hounds at considerable distances."

The other fresh idea in dog collars is one that could save a treasured animal from a slow death. It has a "Snap-Open" buckle that pulls free if the dog gets hung up in a fence. This one can also be adjusted for use as a choke collar for training sessions.

No matter what style of neckband you choose for your pup, one bit of sound advice for dog owners everywhere to follow during the hunting and trial

season is to be certain that every collar has the owner's name, address and telephone number on it.

This latest neckward for dogs is described in Boatman's new catalog of outdoor supplies. You can obtain your free copy by writing Bill Boatman and Company, Bainbridge, Ohio. I have a copy of this catalog on the desk and will say that it is well worth the time and postage required to get a copy.

A NEWSPAPER ONCE PRINTED a slurring remark about Fala, the Scottish terrier owned and beloved by Franklin Roosevelt, and reaped a whirlwind. The President erupted: "Say what you will about me, but don't abuse my little dog! ! !"

FDR may have converted some Republicans with that one, for anyone who's ever loved a dog feels the same way. President or peasant, never belittle a man's dog. Rap his politics, character or even his wife's cooking, but don't abuse his dog. Dog men won't stand for it.

Which is something to keep in mind when afield with another man's dog. A hunter is often blind to his pup's shortcomings and takes immense pride in the dog's abilities—real or imagined. One of the biggest boors afield is the guy who feels qualified to pass judgement on another man's dog, and doesn't hesitate to do so. The fields are full of such "experts," most of whom have never owned or trained a hunting dog in their lives. The considerate hunter leaves the other man's dog alone and doesn't call, work or criticize the dog in any way unless asked to do so.

A minor violator of this ethic is the guy who talks constantly about long-dead superdogs and their abilities, comparing your living dog with his dead ones. Avoid this. Yesterday's wonderdogs can't work today's birds. Besides, you may tell about Old Spot's amazing ability within earshot of someone who's known the dog and shot over him, and who still regrets both.

A dog owner is obliged to work his young dogs as much as possible, and season them with a lot of field experience. But he also owes something to his companions. He should never go on a long-planned hunt until he's told his companions about his raw new pup. It's their hunt, too, and some hunters take a dim view of a green pup that chews their birds and busts coveys. Never impose such a dog on your friends without asking them beforehand. They will usually say: "Heck, yes! Bring the pup and give him some work." They'll also appreciate being asked before the hunt.

Whether it's your dog or another man's give him a real chance to work. Don't crowd him or "charge" him; give him time, particularly when he's hunting cripples. Don't be too critical even if he breaks a covey or flushes a bird out of gun range. Chances are that you never would have seen the birds without your dog.

One of the most grievous sins afield is shooting a rabbit over another man's bird dog. This is unforgivable even out of sight and hearing of the dog, for the dog can always smell rabbit in your game coat. Another serious breach of the hunting ethic is shooting at extremely low birds over the dog, or at a crippled bird being closely trailed by the dog, for you risk raking the dog or even killing him.

A hunting dog is not a machine to exploit and neglect. Many of the popular ethics that apply to man-and-man hunting will also fit the man-and-dog relationship.

If your dog can't get along with other dogs afield —and many fine, big bird dogs can't—use him accordingly. Don't hunt him with smaller male dogs that could be lamed for the season or seriously hurt in a bad dogfight.

A man has a deep personal responsibility for the health and wellbeing of his dogs. He should provide a dry, comfortable kennel, adequate food and water, and a comfortable place in the car and a chance to exercise during long trips. In hot weather, water the dog often and don't permit him to become overheated. The owner should keep his dog on a careful medical schedule of preventive inoculations and stool examinations for worms.

A hunting dog is not a machine to callously exploit and neglect. It is a friend, a hunting companion, and an invaluable guide to birds. Many of the ethics that apply to man-and-man hunting also fit the man-dog relationship.

Someone once said: "Each man, during his lifetime, is entitled to one good woman and one good dog." The wise hunter cherishes both, neglects neither, and counts himself among the blessed. ●

Quail Hunting Photo By Jim Reed

THAT OLD FALL FEVER

The only known cure is to go hunting. Here are some of the known Florida treatments.

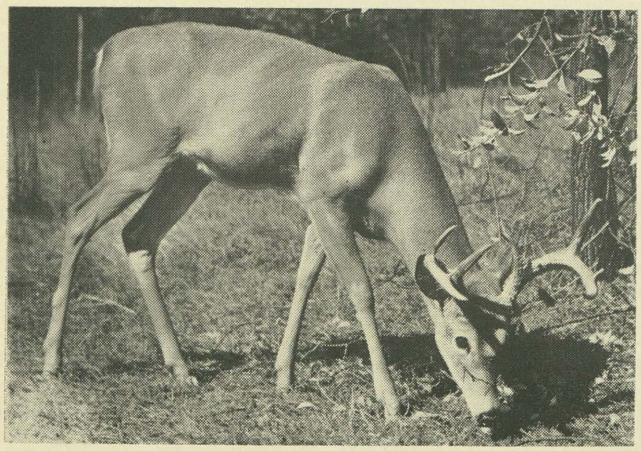
By Edmund McLaurin

IN OTHER GENERATIONS it was customary to administer a good dose of sulphur and molasses, come Spring, "for whatever ails you." That practice, generally, is now long gone, but the treatment of "Fall fever"—hunting fever, that is!—hasn't changed. Even today, the only known effective treatment is to take shots.

At the moment, some 19 million hunters nationwide have the hunting fever and are planning to take shots. Florida resident hunters are no exceptions. . . . Fortunately, they have a variety of game to hunt.

For White-tailed Deer hunting in Florida, consider the national forests as well as Eglin Field, Gulf Hammock, Everglades, Tomoka, Citrus and Farmton Game Management Areas. Those named have long been favorite deer hunting locales. In addition, the Game Commission has this year opened certain new areas experimentally. (Consult printed regulations and special news releases for details.)

White-tailed Deer Photo By Karl Maslowski



The annual harvest, statewide, is around 13,000 animals. Since a kill-figure is always only a mere fraction of actual populations, it is obvious that Florida deer are numerous. No matter where you live in Florida, there is good deer hunting not very far away!

Organized drives—usually aided by dog-pack—and still hunting are the two most productive methods, although every season many simply go into a good deer area and proceed to bag a nice buck without planning or fan-fare.

Most Florida deer are not as large nor as tough as some of their northern and western cousins and are not hard to kill—once you find a buck and place your shot in a vital area. Almost any center-fire rifle and mushroom-class bullet style will do the job.

The important thing, however, is to anchor your deer permanently, before it can run off into concealing Florida scrub and die. That's when the brush-bucking quality of a .308 or .35 Remington, or a close range blast of a 12 gauge shotgun, pays off.

If you plan to also hunt deer in other states, then you should eliminate the shotgun and the relatively short-ranged .35 Remington caliber, for a weapon of greater versatility.

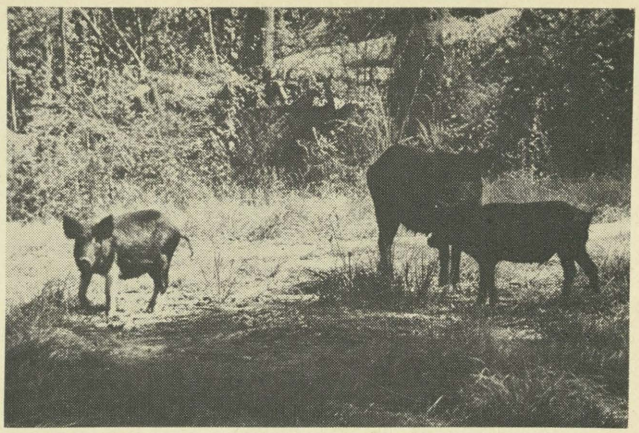
Among sporting rifles suitable for big game where ever hunted in North America, one of the 7mm class (a .270, .280 or .284 caliber) probably comes closest to the ideal. Such a selection combines velocity, flat trajectory over long ranges, excellent bullet sectional density, adequate shock and bullet penetration at the target and moderate recoil once the shot is touched off.

The .30-06 is an old reliable performer, but not all big game hunters can handle the shoulder-jarring .30-06 well.

Wild hog hunting usually is rugged going; the Florida wild hog favors primitive country. There are plenty of them in undeveloped areas of the Everglades, Avon Park acreage, the swamps of the Ocklawaha and Withlacoochee Rivers, at Eglin Field, Gulf Hammock and in the Guano River Wildlife Management Area.

Dogs are needed to trail and bring them to bay, unless a hunter elects to patiently wait, overlooking a known feeding spot.

You can kill a hog with a .22 if you shoot him in the right places, but a heavier weapon is advisable. The rifle calibers recommended for dear and bear are good; so is a 12 gauge shotgun, with rifled slugs or buckshot. As in bear hunting, figure on close range shooting, often in partially concealing brush. Good eating is the reward of the hunter who scores.



Wild Hog Photo By Wallace Hughes

Bear are tough and usually hard to kill, whether you seek them in Florida or elsewhere.

For the special bear hunts held annually in designated areas of Northwest Florida you'll need the shocking power of a rifle caliber like the .30-06, .270, .35 Remington or a .308, or a 12 guage repeating shotgun loaded with rifled slugs or buckshot. Mostly it will be shooting at close range, usually at a target that offers a clear shot only momentarily. When your chance comes, shoot quickly—and accurately.

If you missed this year's special bear hunts, look ahead to next season. Start planning now.

Black Bear Photo By Leonard Lee Rue III

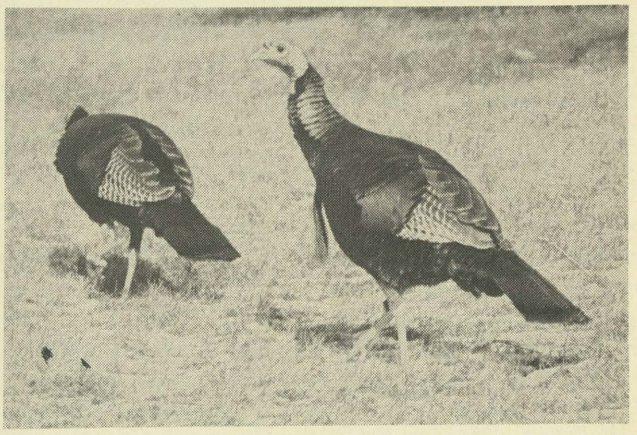
Florida is endowed with many wild turkeys. They are so numerous that you are likely to encounter the big birds when hunting other game. Shoot 'em if they have pink or red legs; leave them alone if their legs are yellow or green—the birds probably belong to a nearby farmer.

Good wild turkey hunting areas are Eglin Field, Gulf Hammock, the fringes of the Ocklawaha River, Fisheating Creek, Avon Park Wildlife Management Area and the Everglades.

Skillful calling of early morning is the favored method of hunting wild turkeys. To bag wily gobblers takes considerable know-how and plenty of patience.

Forty yards is just about the maximum turkey killing range for shotguns loaded with No. 4 shot. If you encounter a wild turkey and have only small size bird shot, aim for the head.

Varmint-class center-fire rifles, like the .222 and .244 Remington calibers, greatly extend the killing range for a hunter patiently occupying a blind. Aim at the turkey's back or where a wing joins the body, preferably. A head shot is apt to be too chancey, even with a scope sight.



Wild Turkey Photo By Karl Maslowski

About squirrel hunting: It is sufficient to say that the little animals are notably plentiful in the South,

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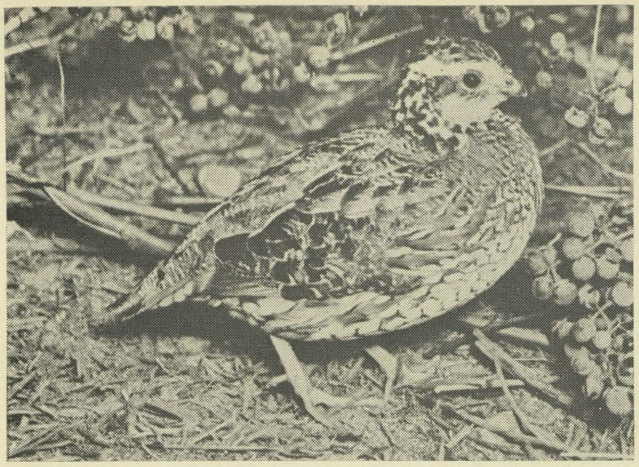
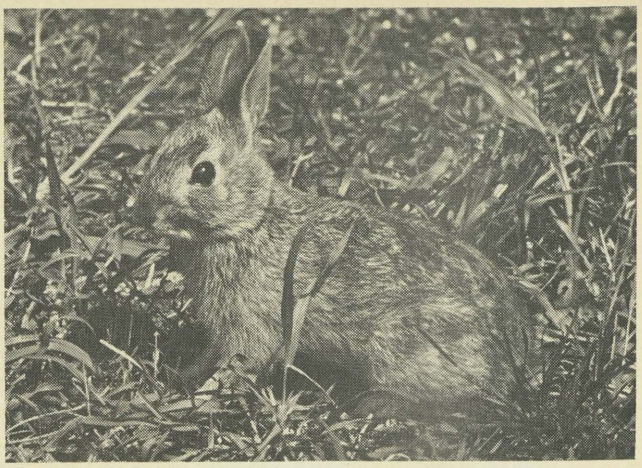
Gray Squirrel Photo By Janet Alexander



Quail Photo By John Gerard



Rabbit Photo By Leonard Lee Rue III

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and that Florida is 'way Deep South! More squirrels are killed annually in Florida than any other game animal.

Grays or cat squirrels are most commonly found in the moss-festooned oaks of river bordering swamps, although they are likely to be found anywhere there is an adequate food supply. The larger fox squirrel is not as abundant statewide, but is numerous in the piney woods of the state's northern counties.

A scope-sighted .22 caliber rifle or a .410 gauge shotgun is an ideal squirrel hunting weapon, because the light reports do not reverberate long distances to warn animals in unhunted areas, like the heavy boom of a 12 gauge shotgun.

Rabbits can be found just about everywhere. Stalk them with a scope-sighted .22, in fields and along edges of ditches where they feed of early morning and evening, or flush them from brush piles and take them on the run with a shotgun firing loads of No. 5 or No. 6 shot, or snap-shoot them with a .22 pump or autoloader.

Quail hunting is the acme of hunting pleasure to thousands of hunters in the South.

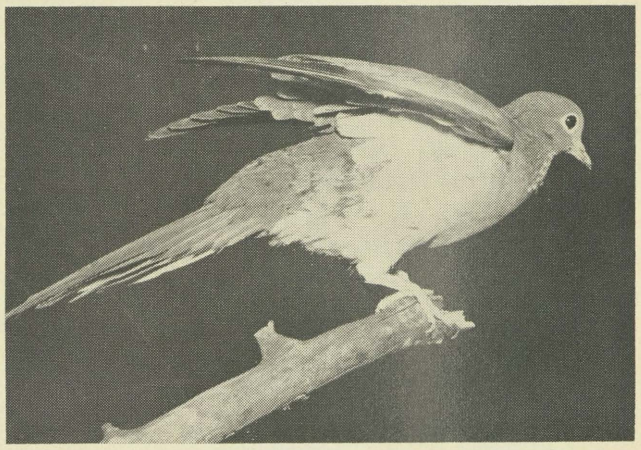
First requisite for a successful quail hunt is a good dog—to locate and "point" birds as they move ghostlike through the grass and underbrush, or hide motionless beneath brush piles.

Second requisite is a suitable gun.

Although the side-by-side double barrel shotgun was once the favorite quail gun, pump-action repeaters and gas-operated autoloaders dominate quail hunting activity today.

Improved Cylinder is the ideal choke boring in a single barrel shotgun, or the choke setting to use if the single tube is equipped with a selective choke device. Barrel length should be 26 inches overall.

Where the old time double barrel shotgun is still personal preference, the first barrel should be Improved Cylinder bored and the second what veteran



Dove Photo By Wallace Hughes

quail hunters refer to as "Quarter Choke." Again, barrel length should not exceed 26 inches.

The quail hunter needs a fast handling gun, delivering a wide but dense killing-pattern at ranges under thirty yards. He gets it in a short-barreled, open bored weapon firing loads of No. 8 or No. 9 shot.

You have your dog and gun; now let's find birds to shoot. . . . Every Florida county has quail. Wild foods abound and every palmetto patch provides protective cover. Look for covies and singles where seeds of grasses, lespedeza, partridge pea, corn, peanuts, wax myrtle, beggarweed and ground level insects abound, tied in with protective cover. This means fields of farmlands, fence row and ditch growth and open pine woods where food and cover combine to produce favorable environment. Best hunting hours are those of early morning and late afternoon.

Special quail hunts are held in various Game Management Areas. For the day-to-day hunter, the Cecil Webb Game Management Area in Charlotte County is a sure thing. Quail are the Area's specialty in wild game.

Several shooting tips may be mentioned briefly . .

Quail hunting is not for large groups; better to have only one companion, or hunt alone, for reasons of field safety.

Waterfowl - Mallard Ducks Photo By Wallace Hughes

When a dog is on point, try to approach from one side instead of directly. If the dog is pointing a covey, your movement will tend to bunch the nervous birds into more compact flight formation.

If several birds take the air, select one target and stick with it until it falls or flies out of range; don't shoot blindly into a rising covey.

Try to accurately pin-point the spots where missed singles settle down, for subsequent follow-up.

The mourning dove is one game bird that seemingly has not been bothered by industrial expansion and population explosions. Countless thousands have moved right in among us humans, to feed and to nest. Even more countless thousands continue to congregate on agricultural and dairy lands. Hunting pressures don't seem to hurt the annual dove population one bit.

As the observed split-season advances, Florida resident birds are joined by huge flocks from northern states.

You will find good shooting where fields of millet, corn or peanuts have been planted for livestock feed, and around cattle feed hoppers and waterholes. Shooting is largely a matter of getting landowner permission to hunt and thereafter respecting the privilege.

This season, Florida dove hunters will have opportunities to hunt on a total of nineteen public dove hunting fields located in various sections of the state and open on staggered calendar basis.

Operated by the Game Commission on its own leased lands, or in conjunction with cooperating landowners, the fields serve a two-fold purpose—provide easily accessible hunting acreage for the dove hunter and a proving ground for managed public hunting on small designated acreage.

A list of the public dove fields and their locations, open dates and permit fees can be had on request to the Game Commission, at Regional Offices or Tallahassee headquarters.

Favorites of dove hunters are pump and autoloading shotguns, of either 12 or 16 gauge, used with Size No. 7½ shot and limited to three shell capacity in accordance with Federal law. Modified Choke boring is just about perfect for doves.

Usual hunting method is to take concealed or crouching position along the edge of a feeding area or in its center, and wait for flights. Unless you are an exceptionally good wing-shot, you'll need plenty of shells; doves can be difficult targets, once shooting starts.

For untold ages Florida has been directly in the path of migrating waterfowl making southward trek via the Atlantic Flyway. Come cold weather, Florida's year-around resident flocks of waterfowl are swelled by thousands of visitors from the North.

Wetlands reclamation and land-fills of real estate developers have changed waterfowl feeding and flight habits to noticeable extent, but waterfowl in numbers are still to be seen—in old and new locations. Beginners should seek "where to go" advice of Wildlife Officers, or head for the St. Mark's Refuge for shooting on authorized "open" days.

You will probably get your best shooting on windy days when most waterfowl are restless and make frequent change of location.

The 12 gauge is the universal favorite of waterfowlers. But many hunters prefer the 16 gauge, although shell loadings contain fewer shot.

Single barrel shotguns can logically be Full Choke for pass shooting; Modified Choke bored for shooting over decoys and at passing birds under 45 yards. Change of choke can be easily and quickly made if the gun has a Pachmayr choke control device, a Poly Choke, or a Lyman-Cutts; otherwise, an extra, specially bored barrel is needed.

A 28-inch barrel length is a good choice—Magnums can be even longer—and a raised rib is a definite aid to accurate pointing and better shooting.

In a double barrel gun, choose one having Modi-

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fied Choke boring for the right barrel and Full Choke for the left.

Shot sizes Nos. 6 and 4 are usually used for ducks, but this season try size No. 7½ for ducks and lesser waterfowl shot over decoys. Large size pellets hold their velocity better at long range and kill better when they connect, but a dense pattern of small shot at reasonably close range is deadly on most waterfowl. For high flying geese, use No. 4 and No. 2 sizes.

In the Fall, flocks of woodcock migrate southward—to Florida.

The woodcock, although not frequently seen by most hunters, is not a game bird hard to find if you know where to look for him. Begin by seeking the woodcock in Florida's more northern counties.

Keep in mind that his diet specialty is earthworms. This means you'll find him along streams, or the moist fringes of ponds, where the soil is rich and soft and filled with earthworms he can probe out with his long bill. If a spot is being used by woodcock as a feeding area, you will find tiny holes in the moist earth where birds have searched for worms. Also, there will be splashy white droppings. When birds find a spot to their liking, they will return to it time and again. You simply have to find a spot they like and obviously use.

Woodcock fly erratically—after flushing straight up and leveling off. They invariably will be close to the gun when flushed, and give the illusion of great speed. Actually, the woodcock is a slow flyer.

Use a short-barreled, open bored shotgun, loaded with either No. 8 or No. 9 shot. Take your time when making shots; wait until flushed birds have reached the top of their initial rise before shooting —and keep your eye on your target from the moment you first see him. Calmly and unhurriedly make the shot.

You'll need a dog to help find the birds you knock down. Woodcock so perfectly match their habitat in coloration that they can be very difficult to find in brush without the assistance of a dog.

Another long-billed game bird that offers sporty shooting is the snipe, abundant in northern and central Florida during the winter hunting season.

Seek "Jack Snipe" in boggy meadows, muddy cattle pastures, amid marshes and close to grass-bordered ponds.

Use the same gun and shot combination that is recommended for woodcock.

His swift, twisting flight will probably make "Jack Snipe" hard to hit the first time you are out, but you'll soon master the zig-zag bounds and increase the number of your kills. Fortunately, most shots at snipe will be in the open, without the disconcerting surrounding brush that so often is associated with woodcock shooting. This advantage is offset by the fact that the snipe is a much faster-moving target. However, a bird that gets up twenty yards from the gun will be downed about thirty yards away by a reasonably good shot.

Unless you head for the rolling prairies of South Dakota, or the corn fields of Nebraska, or other of the Corn Belt states, where wild pheasants are plentiful, you'll probably have to do your pheasant hunting on a commercial shooting preserve.

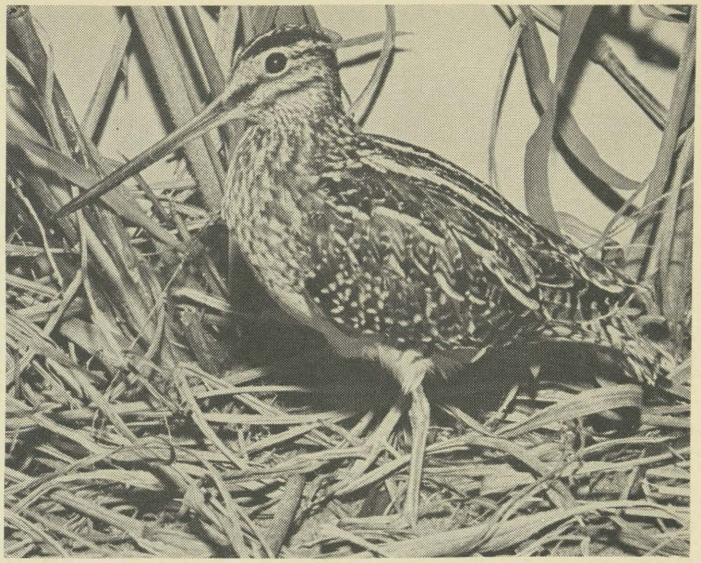
But that's O.K. . . . Game biologists say that the inherent characteristics of the pheasant are so dominantly strong that most pen-raised birds emulate the ways and tricks of wild birds within a few short hours after release. Since all pay-as-you-go shooting preserves release more birds than are ultimately bagged, there are always some smart survivors to out-wit.

A dog is necessary for really successful pheasant hunting; otherwise, birds are likely to run ahead of advancing hunters. Use of one or more dogs is part of the day's hunting you pay for on a commercial preserve.

Commercial Shooting Preserve Pheasant Hunt

Florida State News Bureau Photo

Raccoon Photo By Bill Hansen



Snipe Photo By Wallace Hughes

Gray Fox Photo By Karl Maslowski

Crow Photo By Morrie Naggiar

Most shots develop within 20 to 35 yards of the gun, but if you miss close rising birds, succeeding shots are apt to be fairly long.

A 12 gauge, of Modified Choke boring, loaded with No. 6 shot, is popular choice.

Try to catch flushed birds at the peak of their rise, just as they start to level off. Once distant, pheasants can carry a lot of lead and are more apt to get away, even though they may later die.

You can make your hunting more interesting and action-filled if you hunt unprotected species—red and gray foxes, raccoon, armadillo, crow and turkey vulture—on days closed to regular hunting. You must have a valid hunting license in your possession and hunt only designated unprotected species. Also, you cannot hunt varmints in Game Management Areas on closed days.

To avoid any possible misunderstanding about your intentions or field actions, it is a good idea to first look up the nearest Florida Wildlife Officer, acquaint him with your varmint hunting plans and ask his advice about where to hunt.

Special types of firearms are not necessarily needed to hunt varmints, but scope-sighted rifles of small caliber and high velocity add greatly to the pleasure of varmint hunting. Especially suitable are rifles chambered for the .222 Remington, .243 Winchester and .244 Remington calibers.

You can use your regular shotgun for crow shooting—Many veteran crow shooters rely on No. 6 shot, but as an experiment try a box of high velocity loads of No. 8 shot. You are likely to be pleasantly surprised at the results! Seems that the fine shot kill quicker become their greater number increases both the likelihood of higher percentage of connecting shot and imparted shock.

If you are one of the few unfortunates who somehow manage to finish up the season without any gun hunting luck, despair not. Falconry may be your true forte. A new ruling by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service now permits use of winged killers in the taking of mourning dove and designated duck species. ●

Photo By Bob Lancroft

A View of the Past!

A Florida lake — calm and serene, with moderate activity by fishermen and boaters. Booming human population is expected to change this. Water is usually the focal point for our many recreational activities.

A look at the Outdoor Recreation, Hunting and Fishing Picture — by 1975

FLORIDA'S

FLORIDA'S RAPIDLY BOOMING human population will put severe pressure upon fishing and hunting conditions and other resources for outdoor recreation during the coming years. The more densely populated central and southern portions of the state will experience acute problems in this respect, particularly in regard to certain types of recreation activities. Yields of fish and game species, however, are expected to keep pace with human population growth, provided up-to-date fish and wildlife management practices are employed.

These and other important facts about Florida's outdoor resources were discussed recently at the University of Florida as part of Operation DARE (Develop Agricultural Resources Effectively), sponsored by the College of Agriculture and the School of Forestry under the supervision of Provost E. T. York. This meeting was one of a series of conferences designed to study all the various aspects of Florida's land-based economy and to make plans for as far ahead as 1975. Experts from industrial pulp companies; from other interested private concerns; and from county, regional, state and Federal agencies assembled to discuss problems relating to various aspects of Florida's outdoor resources.

The primary factor responsible for stresses upon outdoor resources is the tremendous increase in human populations—from 4.9 million in 1961 to 8.2 million by 1975—an increase of almost 66%. Much of the increase will take place in extreme south Florida, in a belt across central Florida, and in northeastern portions of the state. Per capita income is expected to increase from $1965 in 1961 to more than $2700 by 1975—a 37% increase. This will give people a relatively greater amount of disposable income than they now enjoy. More leisure time will also be a factor causing pressure on outdoor facilities. The present 40-hour week is expected to shrink to only 36 hours by 1975. Floridians will also do more traveling in the future—6500 miles annually per capita as compared to only 5000 miles at present. Another critical factor is that it takes just so many agricultural products (principally food) to satisfy the wants of people. This places a limit upon what can be spent for these products. There is no limit, however, to the amount of money that can be spent for recreational pursuits. All of these factors point

A Look at the Future?

Anglers gather elbow to elbow at a Lakeland, Florida fishathon. Fish management practices are expected to keep pace with increasing fishing pressure. Pollution remains as the big threat to prime fishing waters.

Photo By Art Runnels

FUTURE

BY S. L. BECKWITH
School of Forestry, University of Florida

to only one, almost inescapable conclusion: Increased competition for Florida's outdoor resources.

Recreation activities can be divided into two rather broad groups—high density and low density —depending upon the number of people that can be accommodated in a given area. High density activities include salt and fresh water bathing and swimming, boating, picnicing, visiting historical sites, and just plain relaxing. Significantly, water usually forms a focal point for such activities. Facilities for high density recreation activities will become especially critical during the next few years, particularly in the more heavily populated southern portions of the state. Residents of north Florida will fare better in this respect.

Low density forms of recreation are hiking, hunting, fishing, camping and nature study. Relatively large tracts of land or water are required for such activities. North Floridians will also have a definite edge over their more urbanized southern counterparts in these forms of recreation.

Representatives of pulp and paper companies that hold vast acreages of Florida's commercial forest lands had vital roles in the DARE conferences. Many such companies have willingly cooperated with state and local agencies in opening their lands to public use. Fishing and swimming lakes have been created and hunting is permitted on most of these industrial lands. The question of liability involved in the use of these lands was greatly alleviated by a law passed by the 1963 legislature. Two principle objections were raised, however, regarding the public use of commercially operated forest lands: (1) Abuse of property, and (2) litterbugging. Recreation seekers must learn to respect private property rights and to refrain from scattering garbage and other forms of litter. Both such activities cause the companies to incur thousands of dollars of additional expense annually, and may eventually lead to barring the public from desirable areas.

Of more immediate interest to the anglers and nimrods of the state were DARE predictions concerning fishing and hunting. License fishermen in Florida are expected to more than double in number by 1975, i.e. from approximately 370,000 to 800,000. A large part of this increment will be due to a larger percentage of people that will engage in this

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Photos By Art Runnels

The yield of game and fish is expected to keep up with the growing human population, provided up-to-date fish and wildlife management programs are maintained. The future for deer hunting remains optimistic, and a harvest of over seven times the current yield is highly probable as Florida deer ranges continue to improve.

Under favorable conditions future turkey hunting should produce up to three times the 1960 harvest of 20,000 birds. Since the turkey population is highly dependent on weather conditions during the nesting season, a bad year, weather-wise, could bring about varied reductions in the fall harvest.

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fine sport—reaching almost 10% by 1975. Hunters are expected to increase in more of a direct ratio with the population growth and should number about 286,000 by 1975, as compared to the present 170,000 licensed hunters. The percentage of the population that engages in hunting is expected to remain at 3½%, or perhaps even decrease slightly. Opportunities for hunting may become critical in south Florida and this will tend to discourage participation in this sport. Initially, large tracts of privately owned land will probably be opened on a limited basis as the owners become conscious of the need for public recreational use. However, as suburban areas expand and land use intensifies (for cattle raising, truck cropping, etc.) restriction of hunting, and probably other public use, will doubtless follow because of posting against all forms of trespass. Fishing opportunities will probably also be better in North Florida than in southern portions of the state, but they will not become as critical as chances for hunting.

In order to meet future needs for both hunting and fishing, as well as for other forms of outdoor recreation, the DARE conference placed emphasis upon privately operated shooting preserves. They should become more popular than at present and will provide sportsmen, hunters in particular, with a place to fish or hunt, when they want it—but for a fee. Hunters must realize that "free" hunting is virtually something that went out with propellor driven aircraft. They must expect to pay landowners for the privilege of hunting, either through patronizing shooting preserves, leasing hunting rights, or for a daily shooting fee. Shooting preserves, thus, will become more important in providing hunting opportunities, and by so doing they will take some of the pressure off native wild game species.

Perhaps one of the most controversial issues raised by Operation DARE is that *fish and game resources are underharvested.* This means that harvests of present fish and game populations can be increased without any drastic consequences, and also that present numbers of fish and game can be increased through more intensive management, improved respect for game laws and seasons, and control of water pollution. As a net result of these factors yields of fish and game can be doubled, or trebled, or more in the years to come. For example, present yields of fish average only approximately 15 pounds of bass and panfish per acre annually. This comes to an average annual catch of just over 100 pounds of fish per licensed angler, if we assume that Florida has 2,500,000 acres of fishable waters. Including cane pole fishermen and others who are exempted from having to purchase fishing licenses, the average catch may be only 50 or 60 pounds per angler per year.

Studies with intensively managed fish ponds have shown that annual yields of 200 or more pounds per acre are easily obtained. Such yields have been accomplished through the application of fertilizer, the control of trash fish, controlling unwanted vegetation, and maintaining the proper balance between the various kinds of game fish present. More intensive management of Florida's fresh water fish resources could account for doubling the annual yield to 30 pounds per acre. This increase would be of the same magnitude as the increase in number of licensed fishermen, resulting in the same fishing success (100 pounds of game fish per licensed angler) in 1975 as exists today.

Prediction for deer yields were particularly optimistic. In some sections of the country white-tailed deer have been harvested at the rate of from 6 to 9 per square mile. Considering only the 19.6 million acres (30,625 square miles) classified as commercial forest land, Florida's reported legal harvest of 13,000 deer in 1960 was at the rate of less than half a deer per square mile—or at *least 12 times less than* the minimum mentioned above. Much of the state's commercial forest land is being replanted and in a very short number of years should provide better conditions for deer. If the deer harvest could be increased to only 3 per square mile, the annual yield should reach almost 92,000 deer—or over *seven times* the present figure.

Do such figures sound preposterous? Perhaps so, but ponder these facts. Some states have consistently harvested deer without regard to sex, (i.e. both bucks and does) at the rate of *20 percent* of the fall population each year. In states that have limited the kill to a bucks only basis the average annual harvest has been at the rate of only *10 to 12 percent.* Thus, simply by harvesting deer on an either-sex basis, the deer yield could be doubled. Deer populations can also be expected to increase—they reached as high a level as 34 per square mile on the Citrus Wildlife Management Area. If we can assume a statewide population of deer averaging only 15 animals per square mile (less than one-half of a known maximum level) and further if we can have hunting regulations that will allow harvesting deer regardless of sex, it is easy to see how a yield of 3 deer per square mile of forested land is not only possible but is highly probable.

Predictions for other resident game species were also favorable, according to the DARE conference. For example, wild turkeys have been harvested at the rate of one bird per 730 acres, with the maximum yield being one bird per 250 acres for the Fisheating Creek Area. Future yields of turkey at the rate of one bird per square mile (640 acres) are not improbable. This would result in a minimum annual harvest of over 30,000 birds, or *one and one-half times* the estimated 1960 kill of 20,000 birds. If the annual harvest could be increased to 2 birds per square mile (or one per 320 acres), the turkey crop would be over *three times* what it is at present, or an increase of 200%.

Larger harvests of turkeys in the past have been correlated more with intensified hunting pressure than with any general increase in turkey populations (according to Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission biologists). Fall populations of these birds have been shown to be closely associated with weather conditions, particularly during the hatching

(continued on next page)

One of the most controversial issues raised by DARE is that fish and game are underharvested. For example; the estimated annual catch of fish per Florida fisherman averages about 60 pounds. Studies show that in intensively managed fishing waters an average 200 pound yield is possible.

Florida State
News Bureau Photo

(continued from preceding page)

and rearing seasons. Thus, heavy rains and high water levels in the late spring and early summer are of prime importance in determining how many young birds will be available for hunting in the fall. DARE predictions for turkey harvests may, therefore, be overly optimistic. They are, however, dependent in part upon more intensive habitat management and in part upon reduced illegal killing of the birds so all the annual harvest is taken during the legal hunting season and shared by every hunter in the state.

In regard to quail, the present normal yield is no better than one bird per 10 acres, with probably less than 20 per cent of the fall population removed through hunting. The total quail harvest for Florida is estimated to be approximately 2,000,000 birds. More intensive management practices coupled with removing 30 per cent or more of the fall population annually (which can be done with no detriment to the breeding population) could easily result in an annual quail kill of 4,000,000 birds, or double the present level.

The situation for squirrels by 1975 was predicted to be similar to that for quail—a probable doubling of the annual kill, to 3,000,000 per year, by more intensive game management practices and increasing the proportion removed through hunting from 10 to 13 per cent to as high as 20 per cent or more annually. However, continued destruction of extensive forests of hardwoods and replanting with pine trees may alter predictions for these game animals. Increased interest in growing hardwoods for pulp, furniture, etc. may be the salvation of tree squirrels.

Another controversial issue brought out by Operation DARE is that successful modern game management hinges upon improved *understanding* and *acceptance* by the general public of basic biological principles involved. This would permit the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission to have unquestioned authority in setting hunting regulations to obtain maximum harvests of wild game. *There is already sufficient knowledge available to adequately manage wild game.* The *chief obstacle* to practicing scientific wildlife production is *hunter management.* Many sportsmen are still back in the old days of game farms, predator control and bounties. They refuse to recognize the possibilities of habitat management and of game population control through the use of hunting regulations. They believe in herd control for cattle and other domestic animals, but fail to realize that wild animals also require similar control if they are to flourish properly.

Reduced illegal killing of deer and other wild game is another "must" if we are to have proper control of wild animal populations. Relaxing hunting regulations to permit better utilization of the game crop will reduce the desire for poaching and illegal hunting activities. Hunters themselves must assume the responsibility of policing their ranks to bring about compliance with game laws. *When poaching becomes unpopular, only then will it be eliminated.* Law enforcement personnel have a vital role in curtailing illegal hunting activities, to be sure, but it is impractical to put enough enforcement personnel in the woods to watch every hunter. It is *impossible to legislate respect for game regulations* until hunters understand the reasons behind intelligent game laws.

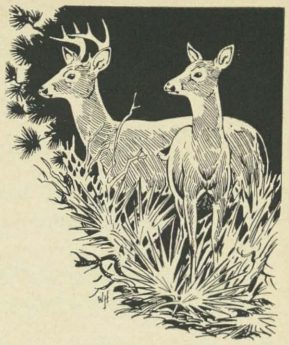
In summary, the DARE meeting emphasized the following points:

1. More intensive fish and game management plans;
2. Interest on the part of landowners in practicing wildlife management;
3. Better understanding by sportsmen of basic wildlife management principles to bring about maximum utilization of fish and game populations;
4. A reduction in the amount of game killed illegally.
5. Control of water pollution for the benefit of fishing, waterfowl hunting, and other forms of outdoor recreation. ●

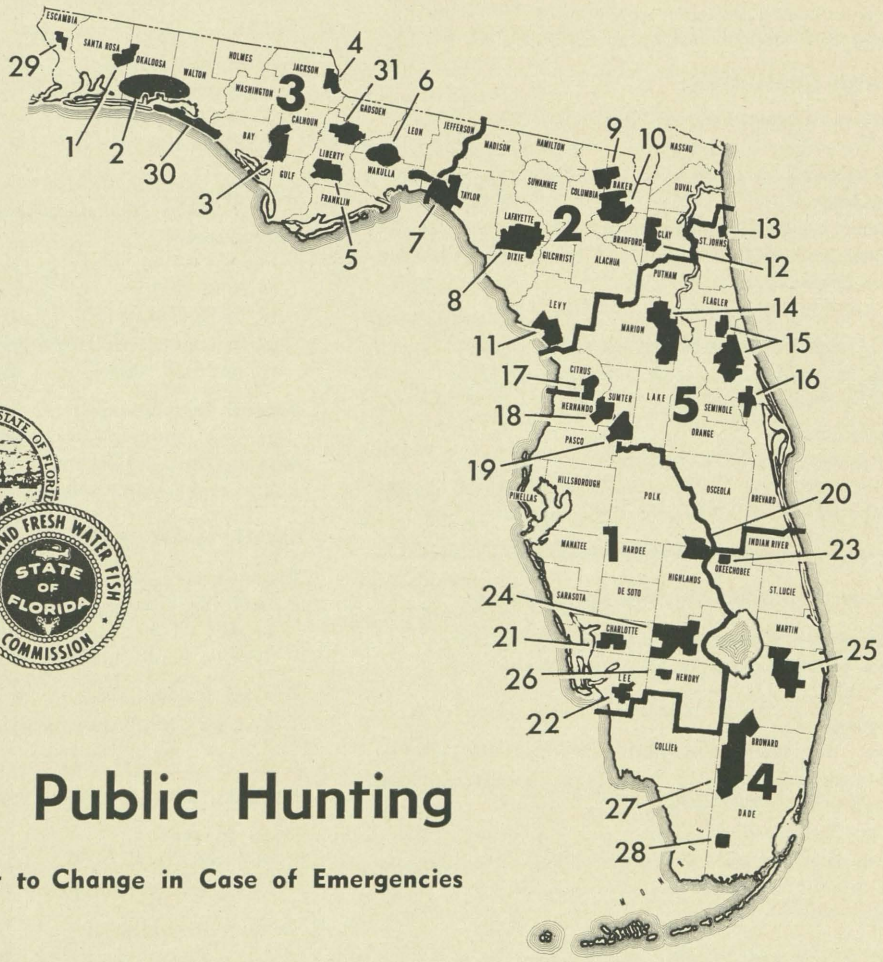
Photo By Wallace Hughes

The future of Florida quail hunting looks good. More intensive management coupled with a harvest of 30 per cent of the fall population, which can be done with no harm to the breeding population, would double the annual quail hunting harvest.

Florida's Wildlife Management Areas



This season the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission will have open to hunting 31 Wildlife Management Areas as shown below. In addition to a regular hunting license, a public hunt area permit is required for those desiring to hunt on the Management Areas.



Controlled Public Hunting

All Regulations Subject to Change in Case of Emergencies

A $5.00 Public Hunting Area Permit, in addition to regular hunting license, is necessary to hunt on most Wildlife Management Areas. Such Permits are secured from any County Judge, or authorized sub-agent, in the state.

Guns, either assembled or disassembled, or dogs are allowed only during the season designated for each particular wildlife management area except under special permit issued by an authorized representative of the Game Commission. Possession of loaded guns on days when hunting is not permitted and after shooting hours is prohibited.

Special Hunt Permits, as outlined in the Management Area summary, are required, in addition to regular hunting license, to hunt on Eglin Field, Cecil M. Webb and Citrus Wildlife Management Areas; and for special bear and archery hunts. Special hunt permits are obtained as listed in the summary.

Hunters must check in when entering, and check out and report their kill when leaving, at designated checking stations on Wildlife Management Areas where such stations are maintained. On all other areas, hunters are requested to have their deer and turkey checked at the hunt headquarters.

Public Hunting Area Permit and hunting license must be in a hunter's possession as long as he participates in hunt and must be displayed upon request of a Wildlife Officer "or other commission personnel."

Complete regulations and maps of individual management areas are available from Regional Offices listed on page 3; at management area check stations; or from County Judge's offices near location of management areas.

The numbered areas on map above correspond with the numbers appearing after management area names on following pages.

General Regulations Continued On Next Page

Northwest Florida

Third District

Blackwater Wildlife Management Area-1

Open Season: Deer hunting—November 21 to December 6; December 19 to January 3. Turkey hunting—November 21 to January 3.

Fishing and Frogging—Permitted throughout the year.

Legal to Take: All legal game, fish, frogs and fur-bearing animals.

General Regulations:

1. Hunters may enter the area for camping at 8:00 a.m., November 20 and must leave by 6:00 p.m., January 4.
2. Possession or use of rifles prohibited. Deer may be taken with shotguns only with shot not smaller than No. 2 buck.
3. Camping permitted at designated campsites.

SQUIRREL AND QUAIL HUNT

Open Season: Hunting—November 21 to February 28.

Legal to Take: Quail, squirrel and migratory game during applicable seasons.

General Regulations:

1. Possession or use of rifles prohibited.
2. Camping permitted at designated campsites. All structures must be removed by March 25.
3. Quail hunting from vehicles prohibited.

SPRING GOBBLER SEASON

Open Season: Hunting—March 27 to April 11.

Legal to take: Turkey gobblers

General Regulations:

1. Use or possession of rifles prohibited.
2. Camping prohibited.
3. Hunting permitted ½ hour before sunrise to noon.

New Wildlife Management Areas

St. Regis Wildlife Management Area-29

Open Season: Hunting—November 21 to February 28.

Legal to Take: Quail and squirrel.

General Regulations:

1. Hunters must check in and out at check stations.
2. Hunters may check in ½ hour before sunrise and must check out no later than one hour after sunset.
3. Camping prohibited.
4. Hunting is prohibited in designated field trial areas.

Point Washington Wildlife Management Area-30

Open Season:

Hunting—**Seminole Hills Tract**—September 26 to November 8 and January 16 to May 23. **Tract North of State Road** 30 A to West Bay and East of State Road 79—January 17 to November 21.

Legal to Take: Fox and Raccoon

General Regulations:

1. Dogs may be used.
2. Hunting permitted only at night.
3. Guns prohibited on the **Seminole Hills Tract.**
4. Single shot .22 rimfire rifles or .22 pistols may be used only on the **Tract North of State Road 30 A to West Bay and East of State Road 79** under special permit issued by an authorized representative of the Commission. Ammunition for the firearms shall be .22 rimfire shorts.
5. Camping prohibited.
6. Cooking, warming, or any other fires prohibited.
7. Vehicles may not leave established roads on the area.

Eglin Field Wildlife Management Area-2

Area Regulations:

1. Fishing permitted with a U S Air Force Permit.
2. Hunters must possess a U S Air Force Permit.

ARCHERY HUNT

Open Season:

Hunting—October 24 to November 8—Open area bounded on the south by U. S. 98 and State Road 20; on the north by the Yellow River and U. S. 90; on the west by State Road 87; and on the east by State Road 83.

Legal to Take: Deer (and wild hog) Bag Limit: one per season.

General Regulations:

1. Hunters must check in and out daily through the Jackson Guard Station.
2. Possession or use of firearms or crossbows prohibited.

GUN HUNT

Open Season:

Hunting—November 21 to December 6 and December 19 to January 3.

Legal to Take: Deer, quail, squirrels, rabbits and migratory birds (during applicable open seasons). One wild hog may be taken only during the December 19-January 3 season.

General Regulations:

1. Only shotguns or longbows permitted. No shot smaller than number 2 buckshot may be used for hunting deer.
2. Camping prohibited.

SMALL GAME HUNT

Open Season:

Hunting—January 4 to January 31.

Legal to Take: Quail, squirrels, rabbits, and migratory birds (during applicable open seasons).

General Regulations:

1. Only shotguns permitted.
2. Camping prohibited.

SPECIAL ANTLERLESS DEER SEASON

Open Season:

Hunting—January 9, only.

Legal to Take: Antlerless deer. Limit 1.

General Regulations:

1. A Special Antlerless Deer permit is required.
2. Only shotguns or longbows permitted. No shot smaller than No. 2 buckshot permitted for hunting deer.
3. Camping prohibited.

SPRING GOBBLER SEASON

Open Season:

Hunting—March 27 to April 11.

Legal to Take: Turkey gobblers

General Regulations:

1. Only shotguns permitted.
2. Hunting permitted ½ hour before sunrise to noon.
3. Camping prohibited.

EARLY DOVE SEASON

The hunting of doves may be permitted under Air Force regulations on Wednesdays and Saturdays during the portions of the Federally established dove seasons prior to the opening of the November 21 hunting season.

Gaskin Wildlife Management Area-3

Open Season: Hunting—November 21 to January 17. The hunting of quail will be permitted until February 28.
Legal to Take: All legal game, fish and fur-bearing animals.

General Regulations:

1. Hunters may enter the area at 8:00 a.m., November 20 and must leave by 6:00 p.m., February 28.
2. Camping permitted only on designated campsites. All camp structures must be removed by February 28.

SPRING GOBBLER SEASON

Open Season: March 27 to April 11.
Legal to Take: Turkey gobblers

General Regulations:

1. Hunting permitted ½ hour before sunrise to noon, only.
2. No camping permitted.

Apalachee Wildlife Management Area-4

Open Season: Hunting—November 21 to January 17; Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays closed.
Fishing and Frogging—Permitted throughout the year.
Legal to Take: All legal game, fish, frogs and fur-bearing animals.

General Regulations:

1. Hunters must check in and out at checking stations.
2. Hunters may enter the area at 4:30 a.m., CST, and must leave by 6:00 p.m., CST, each hunt day.
3. Camping permitted at designated camp site.
4. No free running hounds permitted. Deer may be taken by still hunting or with the use of slow trail dogs.
5. Hunting or killing of pheasants or geese prohibited.
6. If sufficient doves are available, hunters will be permitted, after obtaining a Management Area permit, to hunt beginning October 3 on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at the Apalachee Correctional Institution and on the alternate days on the Management Area.

SPRING GOBBLER SEASON

Open Season: March 27 to April 11. Hunting permitted ½ hour before sunrise to noon. No camping permitted.
Legal to Take: Turkey gobblers

New Wildlife Management Area

Telogia Creek Wildlife Management Area-31

Open Season: November 24 to January 17.
Hunting permitted every day.
Legal to Take: Same as for the Third District, except; fox hunting will be permitted only in that portion of the Management Area north of Highway 12 and south of the Houston, Texas, gas line. Guns prohibited for fox hunting; season from January 16 to May 23, 1965.

General Regulations:

1. Check stations will open 4:30 A.M. All hunters must check out of the area before 6:00 P.M.
2. Camping permitted at designated campsites only.

Liberty Wildlife Management Area-5

Open Season: Hunting—November 21 to January 17. Trapping—January 18 to March 1. Fishing and Frogging—Permitted throughout the year.
Legal to Take: All legal game, fish, frogs and fur-bearing animals.

General Regulations:

1. Hunters may enter at 8:00 a.m., November 20, and must leave by 6:00 p.m., January 18.
2. Camping permitted anywhere. All camp structures must be removed within 10 days after close of the season.

SPRING GOBBLER SEASON

Open Season: Hunting—March 27 to April 11.
Legal to Take: Turkey gobblers

General Regulations:

1. Camping permitted.
2. Hunting permitted ½ hour before sunrise to noon.

Leon-Wakulla Wildlife Management Area-6

Open Season:
Hunting—November 21 to January 17. Trapping—January 18 to March 1.
Fishing and Frogging—Permitted throughout the year.
Legal to Take: All legal game, fish, frogs and fur-bearing animals.

General Regulations:

1. Hunters may enter at 8:00 a.m., November 20, and must leave by 6:00 p.m., January 18.
2. Camping permitted anywhere. All camp structures must be removed within 10 days after the close of the hunting season.

SPRING GOBBLER SEASON

Open Season: Hunting—March 27 to April 11.
Legal to Take: Turkey Gobblers

General Regulations:

1. Camping Permitted.
2. Hunting permitted ½ hour before sunrise to noon.

Northwest and Northeast Regions

Aucilla Wildlife Management Area-7

Open Season: Hunting—November 14 to January 17; Trapping—January 18 to March 1 in the Taylor County portion only.
Fishing and Frogging—November 14 to January 17, Jefferson—Wakulla portion. Prohibited on Fish and Wildlife Service lands.
Open throughout the year on the remainder of the Area.
Legal to Take: All legal game, fish, frogs and fur-bearing animals.

General Regulations:

1. Hunters must check in and out at checking stations in Jefferson and Wakulla County portions of the Area.
2. Hunters may enter the Area at 8:00 a.m., November 13 and must leave by 6:00 p.m. January 18.
3. The possession or use of dogs for hunting is prohibited during the period of November 14 through November 20. Dogs may be used beginning November 21.

SPRING GOBBLER SEASON

Open Season: March 27 to April 11—Taylor County ONLY.
Legal to Take: Turkey gobblers

General Regulations:

1. Hunting permitted ½ hour before sunrise to noon.
2. No camping permitted.

(continued on next page)

Northeast Florida

Second District

Steinhatchee Wildlife Management Area-8

Open Season:

Hunting—November 14 to January 3. First 9 days open; December 23 to January 3 open; Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays closed at all other times for all species.

Trapping—January 4 to March 1.

Fishing and Frogging—Permitted throughout the year.

Legal to Take: All legal game, fish, frogs and fur-bearing animals.

General Regulations:

1. Hunters may enter the area at 8:00 a.m., November 13 and must leave by 6:00 p.m., January 4.
2. Camping permitted only at designated campsites.
3. No deer shall be quartered or otherwise dismembered on the area until they have been checked by a Wildlife Officer.
4. Dogs found in the refuge area will be impounded.

SPRING GOBBLER SEASON

Open Season: Hunting—March 27 to April 11.

Legal to Take: Turkey gobblers

General Regulations:

1. Camping permitted only at designated campsites.
2. Hunting permitted ½ hour before sunrise to noon.

Osceola Wildlife Management Area-9

Open Season: Hunting—November 14 to January 3. Trapping—January 4 to March 1. Fishing and Frogging—Permitted throughout the year.

Legal to Take: All legal game, fish, frogs and fur-bearing animals.

General Regulations:

1. Camping permittted anywhere.
2. No deer or bear shall be quartered or otherwise dismembered until checked by a Wildlife Officer.
3. The possession or use of dogs is prohibited.

SPRING GOBBLER SEASON

Open Season: Hunting—March 27 to April 11.

Legal to Take: Turkey gobblers

General Regulations:

1. Camping permitted only at designated campsites.
2. Hunting permitted ½ hour before sunrise to noon.

Lake Butler Wildlife Management Area-10

Open Season:

Hunting—November 14 to January 3. Trapping—January 4 to March 1. Fishing and Frogging—Permitted throughout the year.

Legal to Take: All legal game, fish, frogs and fur-bearing animals.

General Regulations:

1. Camping prohibited.
2. No dogs or free running hounds permitted in the area bordered by State Road 231 and Woods Road 4, 5 and 9, or south of State Road 100.

SPRING GOBBLER SEASON

Open Season: Hunting—March 27 to April 11.

Legal to Take: Turkey Gobblers

General Regulations:

1. Hunting permitted ½ hour before sunrise to noon.
2. Camping prohibited.

Gulf Hammock Wildlife Management Area-11

Open Season:

Hunting—November 14 to January 3. First 9 days open; November 25-29 open; December 23 to January 3 open; Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays closed at all other times. Migratory game may be hunted every day.

Trapping—January 4 to March 1.

Fishing and Frogging—Permitted throughout the year.

Legal to Take: All legal game (including wild hogs), except bear. Fish, frogs and fur-bearing animals.

General Regulations:

1. Hunters may enter the area at 8:00 a.m., November 12 and must leave by 6:00 p.m., January 4.
2. Camping permitted only at designated campsites and not within 30 feet of water pumps.

Camp Blanding Wildlife Management Area-12

Open Season: Hunting—November 14 to January 3.

Legal to take: All legal game (including wild hogs), and fur-bearing animals.

General Regulations:

1. Hunters must check in and out at checking stations. Checking station on State Road 21 open only on weekends.
2. Hunters may enter the area at 6:00 a.m., and must leave by 6:30 p.m. each hunt day.
3. No camping permitted.
4. No dogs other than bird dogs used for quail hunting permitted in that portion of the area North of State Roads 215 and 16.

Central Florida

Fifth District

Guano River Wildlife Management Area-13

Area Regulations:

1. Hunters must check in and out at checking station, except during Marsh Hen and Archery Seasons.
2. Hunters must enter and leave the area each hunt day within the following times at either checking station:

   Six Mile Station—5:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

   Guano River Dam—5:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
3. Use or possession of centerfire rifles prohibited.
4. Motors larger than 5½ H. P. and airboats are prohibited on Lake Ponte Vedra.
5. Fires prohibited on the grass portions of the dam.

MARSH HEN SEASON

Open Season: September 5 to November 13. Everyday hunting on Western Salt Marsh only.

Legal to Take: Marsh hens

General Regulations:

Hunters not required to check in or out at checking stations.

WATERFOWL AND RESIDENT GAME SEASON

Open Season:

November 14 to January 3 Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays, Christmas and New Year's Days Closed.

Legal to Take: All legal game (including wild hogs).

General Regulations:

1. Waterfowl may be hunted only from sunrise to 12 noon.
2. Waterfowl must be checked out at check station by 2:30 p.m.

Guano River Management Area—Continued

3. Small game must be presented at check station before being dressed or picked.

4. Dogs, other than quail dogs or waterfowl retrievers, prohibited.

5. Camping prohibited.

ARCHERY SEASON

Open Season:

January 23-24; 30-31; February 6-7; 13-14 and 20-21.
Legal to Take: Wild hogs

General Regulations:

1. Hunters must check in and out at Guano Dam checking station.

2. Hunters may enter the area at 6:00 a.m. but must leave by 6:30 p.m. each open day.

3. Firearms or crossbows prohibited.

4. Camping permitted in areas designated as campsites.

5. Special $2.00 per day permit required.

FISHING SEASON

Open Season:

Open at all times, except during the waterfowl hunting season, fishing will be permitted only from 12 noon until one hour after sunset.
Legal to Take: Fish, crabs and shrimp.

Ocala Wildlife Management Area-14

Open Season: Hunting—November 14 to January 3.
The hunting of all game species is prohibited on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays (except November 27) from November 23 to December 22.
Fishing and Frogging—Permitted throughout the year.
Legal to Take: All legal game, except bear. Fish, frogs and fur-bearing animals.

General Regulations:

1. Discharge or possession of loaded firearms after legal shooting hours, on closed days, or in public camp areas, prohibited.

2. Camping permitted anywhere.

3. No deer shall be quartered or otherwise dismembered in the hunt area unless properly stamped or tagged at Hunt Headquarters.

Tomoka Wildlife Management Area-15

Open Season:

Hunting—November 14 to January 3. Hunting of all game species prohibited on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays (except November 27) from November 23 to December 22.
Fishing—Requires permit from landowner.
Frogging—November 14 to January 3.
Legal to Take: All legal game, fish, frogs, and fur-bearing animals.

General Regulations:

1. Hunters may enter the area at 8:00 a.m., November 13 and must leave by 6:00 p.m., January 4.

2. Possession or use of rifles prohibited north of U. S. 92. Deer may be taken only by the use of shotguns with shot no smaller than No. 2 buck. Loaded firearms prohibited in the camp area.

SPRING GOBBLER SEASON

Open Season:

Hunting—March 27 to April 11. Hunting permitted only on the portion of the Area north of U. S. Highway 92.
Legal to Take: Turkey gobblers

General Regulations:

1. Camping prohibited.

2. Hunting permitted ½ hour before sunrise to noon.

3. Hunters must use only gates designated as hunt entrances.

Farmton Wildlife Management Area-16

Open Season: Hunting—November 14 to January 3. Hunting of all game species prohibited on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays (except November 27) from November 23 to December 22.
Fishing—Permitted with permit from landowner.
Frogging—November 14 to January 3.
Legal to Take: All legal game, fish, frogs and fur-bearing animals.

General Regulations:

1. Hunters may enter the area at 8:00 a.m., November 13 and must leave by 6:00 p.m., January 4.

2. Possession or use of rifles using centerfire cartridges prohibited. Loaded guns prohibited within camp areas.

3. All camp structures must be removed at the close of the hunting season.

4. Deer may not be quartered or otherwise dismembered until checked and tagged at hunt headquarters.

5. Vehicles prohibited on any roads or fire breaks designated as "CLOSED."

SPRING GOBBLER SEASON

Open Season: March 27 to April 11.
Legal to Take: Turkey gobblers only.

General Regulations:

1. Hunting permitted ½ hour before sunrise to noon.

2. Camping permitted only on designated camp sites.

3. Use or possession of rifles prohibited.

Citrus Wildlife Management Area-17

Area Regulations:

1. Special permit is required.

2. Hunters wishing to camp may enter the area at 8:00 a.m. the day before the hunt and must leave by 6:00 p.m. the day following the close of the hunt.

3. Dogs are prohibited except that bird dogs may be used only during the quail hunt.

4. Only deer having at least one antler 5 or more inches in length may be taken.

ARCHERY SEASON

Open Season: Hunting—October 17 to November 1; November 7 and 8; November 14 and 15; November 21 and 22; November 26-29 and December 5 and 6.
Legal to take: All legal game (including wild hogs), except turkeys.

Archery Regulations:

1. Hunters must check in and out at checking stations. Hunters not camping may enter at 5:00 a.m. and must leave by 10:00 p.m.

2. All deer killed will be brought to the hunt headquarters immediately after they are shot and before they are dressed.

3. Possession or use of firearms or crossbows prohibited.

4. Special $5.00 Archery Permit required for hunting.

GUN SEASON

Open Season: Hunting—December 12-13, January 1-3.
Legal to Take: All legal game (including wild hogs), except turkeys.

(continued on next page)

Citrus Management Area—Continued

Gun Hunt Regulations:

1. Hunters must check in and out at checking stations. Hunters not camping may check in at 5:00 a.m. the day of the hunt and must leave by 10:00 p.m. the same day.

2. When 100 bucks are killed during any hunt, the succeeding days will be closed.

QUAIL SEASON

Open Season: Hunting—January 9 to February 28—Weekends only.

Legal to Take: Quail

Quail Hunt Regulations:

1. Hunters must check in and out at check station 4. Hunters may check in at 5:00 a.m. the day of the hunt and must leave by 6:00 p.m. the same day.

2. Shotguns only, with shot no larger than No. 6 size permitted.

3. Special $2.00 per day quail permit required for hunting.

4. All quail taken must be checked at checking station.

Central and South Florida Management Areas

Croom Wildlife Management Area-18

Open Season: Hunting—November 14 to January 3.

Fishing and Frogging—Permitted throughout the year.

Legal to take: All legal game (including wild hogs), except deer, fish, frogs and fur-bearing animals.

General Regulations:

1. Hunters may enter the area at 8:00 a.m., November 13 and must leave by 6:00 p.m., January 4.

2. Deer dogs or free running hounds prohibited.

3. Camping permitted only on designated campsites.

4. Hunting prohibited on the area set aside for the Boy Scout Camp.

SPRING GOBBLER SEASON

Open Season: March 27 to April 11.

Legal to take: Turkey gobblers

General Regulations:

1. Hunting permitted ½ hour before sunrise to noon.

2. No camping permitted.

Richloam Wildlife Management Area-19

Open Season:

Hunting—That portion of the area north of State Road 50 and the area generally west of Slaughter open to everyday hunting November 14 to January 3. The remainder of the area, or that portion east of Slaughter, open the first 9 days, November 14 to November 22, November 27, 28, & 29, December 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 18, 19, 20 and December 24 to January 3.

Fishing and Frogging—Permitted throughout the year.

Legal to Take: All legal game, fish, frogs and fur-bearing animals.

General Regulations:

1. Hunters may enter the area at 8:00 a.m., November 13 and must leave by 6:00 p.m., January 4.

SPRING GOBBLER SEASON

Open Season: March 13 to March 28.

Legal to Take: Turkey gobblers

General Regulations:

1. Hunting permitted ½ hour before sunrise to Noon.

2. No camping permitted.

Everglades and South Florida Regions

First & Fourth Districts

Avon Park Wildlife Management Area-20

Open Season: Hunting—November 14 to January 3. Saturdays, Sundays and following days open.

(Thanksgiving—November 26 to November 29)

(Christmas—December 25 to January 3)

Fishing and Frogging—November 14 to January 3. Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays.

Legal to Take: All legal game (including wild hogs), fish, frogs and fur-bearing animals.

General Regulations:

1. Hunters must check in and out at checking stations.

2. Hunters may enter the area at 5:00 p.m., November 13 and must leave by 8:00 p.m., November 15; thereafter, they may enter at 6:00 a.m. each Saturday and leave by 8:00 p.m. each Sunday, and they may enter at 6:00 a.m., November 26, and leave by 8:00 p.m., November 29; and enter at 6:00 a.m., December 25 and leave by 8:00 p.m., January 3.

3. Possession or use of rifles prohibited.

4. Camping permitted except in target areas.

5. In case of military necessity, the Commanding Officer of the Avon Park Military Reservation reserves the right to prohibit any person(s), civilian or military, from entering the Avon Park Bombing Range.

SPRING GOBBLER SEASON

Open Season: March 13-14, 20-21, 27-28.

Legal to Take: Turkey gobblers

General Regulations:

1. No camping permitted. Hunters must leave the Bombing Range by 2:00 p.m.

Cecil M. Webb Wildlife Management Area-21

Open Season:

Hunting—November 14 to February 28. Deer and hog season closes January 3. First 9 days open; Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays closed at all other times.

Fishing and Frogging—Permitted throughout the year.

Legal to Take: All legal game (including hogs), fish, frogs and fur-bearing animals. Turkeys CLOSED.

General Regulations:

1. Hunters must check in and out at checking stations. Checking station No. 2 will be open during first 9 days only.

2. Hunters may enter the Area at 5:00 a.m. each day and must leave by 8:00 p.m. at the end of each hunt period.

3. Deer and hogs may be taken only by the use of rifles or shotguns with slugs.

4. Camping permitted.

5. Only deer and hog hunting permitted in field trial area; hunting prohibited when registered field trials are in progress.

6. Special $5.00 per day permit required for hunting.

Lee Wildlife Management Area-22

Open Season:

Hunting—November 14 to January 3, Saturdays & Sundays only.

Fishing and Frogging—Permitted throughout the year.

Legal to Take: All legal game, fish, frogs and fur-bearing animals.

Lee Management Area—Continued

General Regulations:

1. Hunters may enter the area at 5:00 a.m. on Saturdays and must leave by 8:00 p.m. on Sunday.
2. Possession or use of rifles prohibited.
3. Camping permitted at designated campsites.
4. Dogs found running deer or not properly identified will be impounded by a wildlife officer.

Okeechobee Wildlife Management Area-23

Open Season:

Hunting and Fishing—November 14 to January 3. Saturdays, Sundays and the following days open: November 27 to December 1; December 25 to January 1.

Legal to Take: All legal game, fish and fur-bearing animals.

General Regulations:

1. Hunters must check in and out at checking station.
2. Hunters may enter the area at 5:00 p.m. the day before a hunting day and must leave by 8:00 p.m. on the last hunting day.
3. Possession or use of rifles prohibited.

SPRING GOBBLER SEASON

Open Season: Hunting—March 13 to March 28.

Legal to Take: Turkey gobblers

General Regulations:

1. Camping prohibited.
2. Hunting permitted ½ hour before sunrise to noon.

Lykes Bros. Fisheating Creek Wildlife Management Area-24

Open Season: Hunting, Fishing and Frogging—November 14 to January 3.

Legal to Take: All legal game (including hogs—1 per day, 2 per season). Fish, frogs and fur-bearing animals.

General Regulations:

1. Hunters must check in and out at designated checking stations.
2. Hunters may enter the area at 8:00 a.m., November 13 and must leave by 6:00 p.m., January 4.
3. The possession or use of rifles is prohibited.
4. Camping prohibited in buildings on the area without permission of the owner. Camps must be removed by February 6.
5. Airboats prohibited.
6. Dogs prohibited except for quail hunting. Deer dogs or free running hounds will be impounded.
7. Use of horses on this area prohibited.

ARCHERY HOG HUNT

Open Season:

Hunting—January 16-17, 23-24 and 30-31 on those lands within the Fisheating Creek Wildlife Management Area bordered on the south by State Road 74, on the east by U. S. 27, on the north by the Highlands-Glades County line and on the west by Charlotte-Glades County line.

Legal to Take: Hogs, one per day two per Season.

General Regulations:

Camping permitted only on the portion of the area east of the area east of the Tasmania Road.

J. W. Corbett Wildlife Management Area-25

Open Season: Hunting—November 14 to January 28.

Fishing and Frogging—Permitted throughout the year (except Indian Trail Ranch portion) by special permit from landowner, other than November 14 to January 3.

Legal to Take: All legal game (including wild hogs), fish and frogs.

General Regulations:

1. Hunters must check in and out at check stations. Hunters may enter only at the North checking station after January 3. The South checking station located on Indian Trail Ranch just north of State Road 80 has been discontinued.
2. Hunters may enter the area at 8:00 a.m., November 13 and must leave by 6:00 p.m., January 29.
3. The use of rifles prohibited on Indian Trail Ranch portion and in buffer zone around the Pratt-Whitney fence.
4. All camp structure must be removed by February 1.
5. Use of airboats prohibited.

Devil's Garden Wildlife Management Area-26

Open Season: Hunting and Fishing—November 14 to January 3; Saturdays and Sundays only.

Legal to take: All legal game, fish and fur-bearing animals, (including hogs).

General Regulations:

1. Only the Keri Section will be open to hunting this season. Hunters will be checked in and out of the checking station.
2. Possession or use of rifles prohibited.
3. Camping permitted.
4. Deer dogs or free running hounds prohibited.

Everglades Wildlife Management Area-27

Open Season: Hunting—November 14 to January 3.

Fishing—Permitted throughout the year.

Frogging—Permitted January 16 to September 30.

Legal to Take: All legal game (including wild hogs), fish and frogs.

General Regulations:

1. Hunting from the levee bordering the Hillsborough Canal (L-39) prohibited.
2. Guns and dogs may be taken into the area 24 hours prior to the opening of hunting season and must be removed from the area 24 hours after the close of the season.
3. All boats used while taking or attempting to take any wildlife or fish, must fly a flag at least 10 inches wide by 12 inches long, at a height of at least 10 feet above the floor of the boat.
4. All boats and vehicles traveling in the area at night must have a visible light at least 6 feet above the surface on which the vehicle is traveling.

Aerojet Wildlife Management Area-28

Open Season: Hunting and Fishing—November 14 to January 3.

Legal to Take: All legal game, fish and fur-bearing animals.

General Regulations:

1. Camping permitted during open season.
2. Firearms and dogs may be taken into the area November 13 and must be removed by January 4.

Tree

Forestry—the second most important industry in the Sunshine State's economy—is also important to future development of our outdoor recreation plans

By RICHARD FOGARTY
Florida Forest Service

DEER SEASON . . . duck season . . . strawberry season. Everything seems to have a season nowadays. We even have a tree season.

December, January and February are regarded as tree season in the State of Florida.

This is the time of year in which woodland owners plant millions of baby trees—mostly slash pine.

Some of the fledgling trees are grown in the nurseries of large timber companies for planting upon their own lands, but the bulk of the crop comes from huge, state-owned nurseries operated by the Florida Forest Service.

Three FFS nurseries, one each at Munson and Chiefland in north Florida, and Punta Gorda in south Florida, will produce 66,000,000 tiny trees this year. If all goes well, they'll all be planted in Florida soil by early March.

The State began its reforestation efforts back in 1928 with the planting of a mere 5,000 trees. This is enough to plant about six acres. Since then, more than ONE and ONE HALF BILLION trees have been planted in our state. The peak year was 1958-59, when 197,000,000 trees were set out.

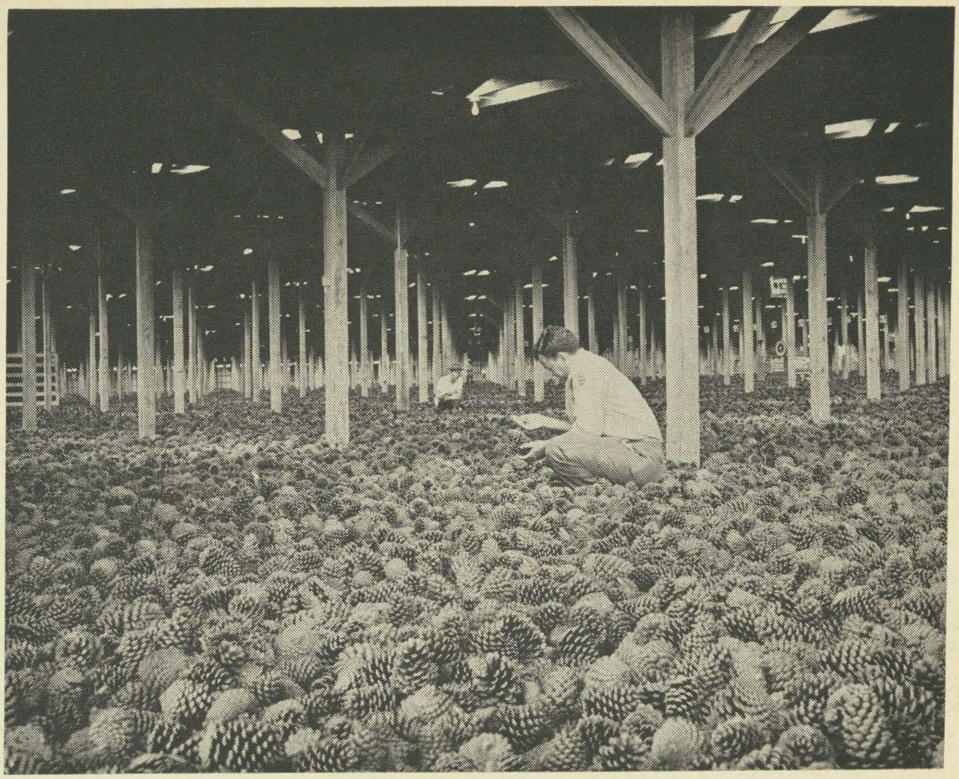
Reforested areas are important for several reasons, not the least of which is economic. Last year forestry and forest products in Florida contributed three-fourths of a billion dollars to the economy.

Most of the trees planted are slash pine, from which naval stores (pitch, turpentine, etc.), pulp, and sawtimber are derived. Slash pine grow comparatively fast and are good income producers.

Reforestation is also important to wildlife preservation. Stark, barren, and cut-over areas are not conducive to the reproduction of game. Good forestation controls erosion, too, and often makes for better fishing areas.

One of the timber companies which operates its own nursery germinated more than seven million slash pine seedlings last year, but still purchased more than two million sand pine seedlings from the FFS. These latter trees are used for planting in deep sand soils where slash does not flourish.

Proper forestry development transforms barren lands into lush forests, offering food and shelter for our wildlife. Each of these two-man planters is capable of planting up to 10,000 seedlings per day.



Future trees for Florida, by the millions, will be started from these seed cones. In addition to putting idle land into production, and boosting the general economy, careful planning to include wildlife food trees such as oak, improves multiple land use.

Season

The Forest Service, through its county Farm Foresters, assists landowners in making planting plans. Up to three days of professional assistance is furnished free of charge. This is usually all the time required by the Farm Forester to work a good planting and timber management plan for the average landowner. Naturally, planning for vast tracts which take considerable time to "cruise" and inspect takes more time, and in these cases the Farm Forester provides the landowner with names and addresses of private consulting firms which will do the job.

The Florida Forest Service also encourages and assists landowners with controlled burning of their woodlands. This practice is not only good for hazard removal and forest disease control, but is also highly beneficial for quail production and other game management.

The Farmers Home Administration of the U.S.D.A. is now providing long-term (up to 40 years and $35,000) loans to landowners for tree farming. The FFS is taking an active part in this program in Florida by approving tree farm management plans of loan applicants. The Service doesn't directly approve loans. This is done by the FHA. But eligibility requirements for a FHA tree farm loan call for a good timber management plan and the Florida Forest Service is the approving agency for these plans.

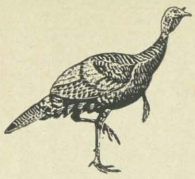
The State, anxious to see idle lands put into production, sells its seedlings to all landowners at cost. Slash, sand, loblolly, and longleaf pine cost $4.00 per thousand. These are the species that provide money making timber and pulp, and comprise the bulk of the Service's nursery crop each year.

The FFS nurseries also produce other type trees. Available from the nurseries are red cedar and Arizona cypress at $8.00 per thousand, catalpa at $5.00 per thousand, several types of eucalyptus and cottonwood cuttings at $10.00 per thousand.

The minimum order is 500 seedlings, and the maximum . . . you name it. The nurseries have 66 million seedlings on a first-come, first served basis. They'll be lifted from their beds starting November 25.

The Forest Service delivers seedlings to FFS district offices and county fire control headquarters throughout the State, providing convenient pickups for landowners.

Landowners may order seedlings now from any Florida Forest Service, Soil Conservation Service, or Agricultural Stabilization office, and from County Agents. ●



1964-65 Hunting Season

Resident Game

Bag Limits

DEER (Buck): 1 per day, 2 per season

TURKEY: Nov., Dec., Jan., 2 per day, 3 per season, either sex. March-April Season, gobblers only, 1 per day, 2 per season.

QUAIL: 12 per day, not more than 24 in possession.

GRAY SQUIRREL: 10 per day, not more than 20 in possession.

FOX SQUIRREL: 2 per day, not more than 4 in possession.

Migratory Game Bird Regulations

Mourning Dove

Three Phase Season, shooting hours from 12-noon to sunset.

First Season: October 3 through November 8.
Except Alligator Point, Franklin County, Third District, closed.
Sumter County, north of State Road 48, Fifth District, closed.
Brevard, Flagler, Volusia & St. Johns Counties, Fifth District, closed.
Putnam County, east of St. Johns River, Fifth District, closed.

Second Season: November 14 through November 29, statewide.

Third Season: December 19 through January 4, statewide.

Bag Limits: Daily Limit 12; Possession Limit 24.

Snipe

Shooting hours, from sunrise to sunset.

Season: November 14 to January 2.

Daily Limit 8; Possession Limit 16.

Woodcock

Shooting hours, from sunrise to sunset.

Season: November 14 to January 2.

Daily Limit 5; Possession Limit 10.

DO NOT USE—It is prohibited to use any of the following methods or weapons while hunting: Full-jacketed bullets or .22-calibre rimfire cartridges for taking deer or bear. Fully automatic firearms. Rifles or pistols for taking migratory birds. Cross bow. Taking game over bait. Hunting turkey with dog. Possession of gun and light at night in woods or on waters. Killing swimming deer. Artificial light, fire. Net, trap, snare. Poison. Saltlick. Setguns. Live decoys. Airplane, automobile, power boat, sail boat, or craft under sail, or craft towed by any aforementioned devices. Do not use any of the above while hunting in Florida.

Waterfowl Hunters

A Federal Migratory Waterfowl Hunting Stamp is required of all waterfowl hunters 16 years of age and older. Available at your local post office, at a cost of $3.00, the 1964-1965 Duck Stamp features Hawaii's Nene Geese. Your name must be signed across face of stamp before hunting.

Waterfowl

Ducks, Geese, Coot

Season: From November 25, 1964 through January 3, 1965.

Shooting Hours: From sunrise to sunset, daily.

Bag Limits	Daily Limit		Possession Limit
Ducks	4	(see notes below)	8
Geese	3		6
Coot	10		20

The daily bag limit on ducks other than mergansers may not include more of the following species than: (a) 2 wood ducks; (b) 2 mallards; and (c) 2 canvasbacks or 2 redheads or 1 of each.

The possession limit on ducks other than mergansers may not include more of the following species than: (a) 2 wood ducks; (b) 2 mallards; and (c) 2 canvasbacks or 2 redheads or 1 of each.

The limits on American, red-breasted, and hooded mergansers, in the aggregate of these species, or 5 daily and 10 in possession, of which not more than 1 daily and 2 in possession may be hooded mergansers.

South of State Road 50, duck hunters will be allowed to have 4 Florida ducks in their total bag of 4. Last year the Florida duck was classified along with the mallard and black duck and hunters were restricted to 2 per day.

LEON COUNTY will be closed to duck, goose and coot hunting EXCEPT on Wednesdays, Saturdays, Sundays, opening day and holidays, and Nov. 27.

Regulations—Summary

South Florida

First District

DEER: November 14-January 3. Hunting permitted everyday, except DeSoto, Hardee, Manatee, and Sarasota counties which will be open for deer hunting from Nov. 14 through Nov. 22, only.

TURKEY: FALL SEASON: November 14-January 3. Hunting permitted everyday. SPRING GOBBLER SEASON: March 13 to March 28 south of State Road 50; March 27 to April 11 in Hernando County north of State Road 50. One-half hour before sunrise to 12 noon.

QUAIL: November 14-February 28. Hunting permitted everyday.

SQUIRREL: November 14-February 28. Hunting permitted everyday.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS: The use of rifles is prohibited in DeSoto, Hardee, Manatee and Sarasoto Counties except .22 rimfire rifles may be used other than for taking deer or bear. The use of dogs in DeSoto, Hardee, Manatee and Sarasota Counties shall be limited to bird dogs, retrievers, and slow trail hounds. The use of running hounds or any other dog that can reasonably be considered a dog usable for running deer is specifically prohibited.

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA HUNTS

FISHEATING CREEK Archery Hog Hunts: Jan. 16, 17, 1965; Jan. 23, 24, 1965; Jan. 30, 31, 1965.

Northeast Florida

Second District

In Dixie, Levy, and Gilchrist Counties and in the portion of the Steinhatchee Wildlife Management Area lying within Lafayette County, Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays shall be closed except during the first 9 days and November 25 through November 29, and December 23 through January 3.

DEER: November 14-January 3. Hunting permitted everyday except as indicated. SPECIAL SEASON: Gilchrist County—November 14-November 22 only. NO OPEN SEASON—Bradford County.

TURKEY: FALL SEASON: November 14-January 3. Hunting permitted everyday except as indicated. NO OPEN SEASON for turkey in Alachua, Bradford, and Madison Counties. SPRING GOBBLER SEASON: March 27-April 11. Hunting permitted everyday one-half hour before sunrise to 12 noon. NO SPRING GOBBLER SEASON in Alachua, Bradford, Madison, and Levy Counties.

QUAIL: November 14-February 28. Hunting permitted everyday except as indicated.

SQUIRREL: November 14-February 28. Hunting permitted everyday except as indicated.

Northwest Florida

Third District

DEER: November 21-January 17. Hunting permitted everyday. SPECIAL SEASON: Okaloosa, Walton, Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties—November 21-December 6; and December 19-January 3. NO OPEN SEASON in Washington and Holmes Counties.

TURKEY: FALL SEASON: November 21-January 17. Hunting permitted everyday. No fall season on Eglin Field. SPRING GOBBLER SEASON: March 27-April 11 one-half hour before sunrise to 12 noon.

QUAIL: November 21-February 28. Hunting permitted everyday.

SQUIRREL: November 21-February 28. Hunting permitted everyday.

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA HUNTS

EGLIN AREA: Archery Hunt Oct. 24 through Nov. 8, 1964
Antlerless Deer Hunt, Jan. 9, 1965, Special Air Force permit required.

POINT WASHINGTON Raccoon and Fox Hunts, Seminole Hills Tract in Bay County, **guns prohibited,** Sept. 26 to Nov. 8, 1964; Jan. 16 to May 23, 1965. The tract north of State Road 30 to West Bay and east of State Road 79 **closed** Nov. 21 through Jan. 17, open remainder of the year.

(Continued on next page)

Everglades Region

Fourth District

DEER: November 14-January 3. Hunting permitted everyday. No deer hunting on Florida Keys of Monroe County.

TURKEY: FALL SEASON: November 14-January 28. Hunting permitted everyday. SPRING GOBBLER SEASON: March 13-March 28 one-half hour before sunrise to 12 noon.

QUAIL: November 14-February 28. Hunting permitted everyday.

SQUIRREL: November 14-February 28. Hunting permitted everyday.

Central Florida

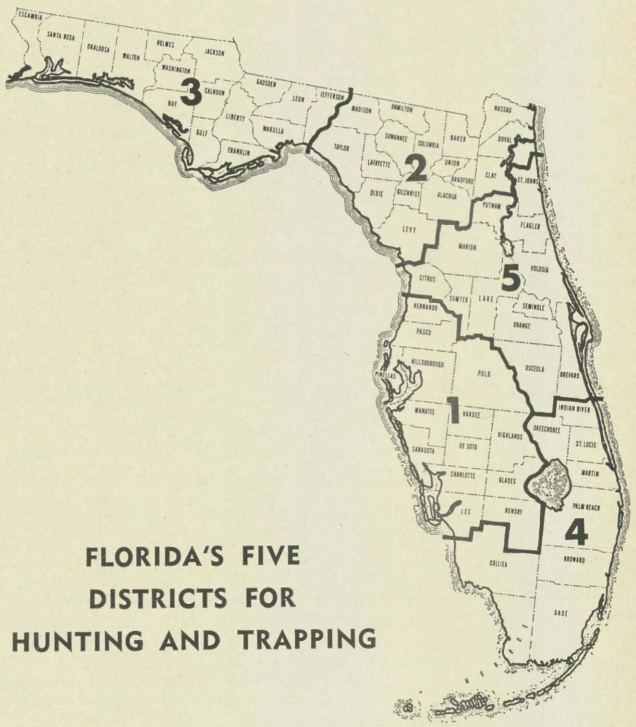
Fifth District

DEER: November 14-January 3. Monday, Tuesday, and Friday closed except during first 9 days and between November 25 and November 29 AND between December 23 and January 3. Hunting permitted everyday in that portion of the District lying south of State Road 50 and west of St. Johns River.

TURKEY: FALL SEASON: November 14-January 3. Monday, Tuesday, and Friday closed except during first 9 days and November 25 through November 29 AND December 23 through January 3. Hunting permitted everyday in that portion of the District lying south of State Road 50 and west of St. Johns River. SPRING GOBBLER SEASON: March 13-March 28, south of State Road 50 and in that portion of the Richloam Wildlife Management Area lying north of State Road 50. March 27-April 11, north of State Road 50. One-half hour before sunrise to 12 noon.

QUAIL: November 14-February 28. Monday, Tuesday, and Friday closed except during first 9 days and November 25 through November 29, AND December 23 through January 3. Hunting permitted everyday in that portion of the District lying south of State Road 50 and west of St. Johns River.

SQUIRREL: November 14-February 28. Monday, Tuesday, and Friday closed except during first 9 days and November 25 through November 29, AND December 23 through January 3. Hunting permitted everyday in that portion of the District lying south of State Road 50 and west of St. Johns River.



FLORIDA'S FIVE DISTRICTS FOR HUNTING AND TRAPPING

LICENSES

(Issued from office of County Judge)

Exempt—Residents 65 years of age and over; all children under 15.
Costs include County Judges' fees.
Service men, stationed in Florida, are considered residents of Florida insofar as licenses to hunt and fish are concerned.

GAME

Series H — For hunting on licensed private hunting preserves only	**$ 5.50**
Series I — Resident County, Game	**2.00**
Series J — Resident, other than Home County	**4.50**
Series K — Resident, State	**7.50**
Series L — Non-Resident, State	**26.50**
Series M — Non-Resident, 10-day Continuous	**11.50**
Series M-1 — Non-Resident County, Owners of and paying taxes on 3,000 acres of land	**11.50**
Series Y — Guide, required for guiding hunting parties. Issued from office of Commission, Tallahassee	**10.00**
Alien Hunting — Issued from Office of Commission, Tallahaseee	**50.00**

TRAPPING

Series N — Resident, County	**$ 3.25**
Series O — Non-Resident, County	**25.50**
Series P — Resident, State	**25.50**
Series Q — Resident, other than Home County	**10.50**
Series R — Non-Resident, State	**100.50**

DO NOT HUNT—There is **NO OPEN SEASON** on the following fully protected species or individuals: Panther, cub bear, Key deer, alligators, crocodiles, spotted or Axis deer, Ross goose, snow goose, brant, swan, eagles, hawks, owls, non-game birds, Everglades mink, weasel. Do not molest or hunt any of the foregoing at any time. Killing of doe or fawn deer, or deer with antlers less than five inches in length is prohibited at all times except as permitted on specific Wildlife Management Areas.

ALL ALLIGATORS and crocodiles and their nests, eggs, and young, are fully protected at all times in all parts of the state. Do not hunt, take or molest at any time.

NO PERSON MAY TAKE or possess any alligator, crocodile or black caiman, or their skins or hides or nests or eggs except under permit from the Director of the Commission.

Free boating courses offered by Coast Guard Auxiliary

Boating Safety

By ELGIN WHITE

IT'S A LONG, LONG time from Spring to December, but many a Florida boatman awaits the coming of Santa Claus month as much as the kids wait for Christmas.

This is particularly true along the western edges of Florida's boating waters, on up through the "Big Bend" area from Tarpon Springs to Homosassa and Crystal River and Cedar Keys to the mouth of the St. Marks River.

Not that this particular area has any more to offer, boating-wise, than other parts of the state, but these waters offer our enthusiasts some of the finest red fishing in the world.

December seems to be the best month for red fishing along the edges of the Homosassa, Wacasassa, and Crystal Rivers, as well as into the inner reaches of the Steinhatchee and Withlacoochee.

We took a cruise through these waters coupla years ago and everywhere we went we ran into hundreds of fishermen in everything from large family cruisers to prams, tubs, and rental rowboats seeking the tasty reds. A good bet, if you're interested in combining fishing with cruising, is to hit the headwaters of the Wacasassa, then mosey down to the Crystal, Homosassa and Withlacoochee. Just near the entrance to the Homosassa from the Gulf of Mexico is a long sand spit that harbors a big pot-hole full of reds . . . don't know exactly where that spot is, but betcha Duncan McRae of McRae's Boat House in Homosassa Springs can tell you.

WITH THE COLD WEATHER coming for some parts of our state, better keep a watch on that cooling system in your boat, particularly in the four-cycle jobs . . . if water is allowed to freeze therein, you're gonna wind up with a cracked cylinder block.

Got some news from Frank Scalpona, who handles PR for Kiekhaefer Corp., who gives some sage advice on care of those of you who have stern drives as old man winter pokes around.

1. Run the engine to bring it to normal operating temperature, then drain crankcase completely by removing plug in the oil pan. Remove the oil filter cartridge and install a new one.

2. Refill crankcase with fresh SAE 20 oil and add manufacturer's oil supplement as directed. Then shut off gas supply at fuel tank.

3. Restart your engine and operate for a few minutes at around 800 to 1200 rpm to insure good new oil circulation. Check oil level to be sure it is full.

4. Remove flame arrestor and fog internal surfaces of induction system by restarting engine and running at high idle speed while pouring a cup of storage seal or 20 MS oil into carburetor. Stall engine by pouring last two ounces of oil rapidly into carburetor.

5. Remove fuel filter and clean bowl, then drain all gas from tank.

6. Remove manifold and cylinder block drain plugs and allow water to drain out, making sure bow of boat is higher than stern or water will not drain from front of block.

(*Continued on next page*)

Redfish angling calls hundreds of anglers from all over the state, and early morning forays into the Homosassa River reveals small boats crowding the edges seeking the finny fighters from the Gulf.

(*Continued from preceding page*)

7. Inspect all water hoses for cracks and deterioration, and add small amount of cam and ball bearing lubricant on distributor cam surface. Add a drop of light oil to breaker lever pivot.

8. Remove, clean, and re-gap spark plugs to .035 inches, reinstall with new gaskets and tighten to 20 to 25 foot-pounds torque.

These are basic suggestions that all boaters should take into consideration for the coming winter months, especially if you have done a lot of heavy running this past summer and fall.

IT IS ABSOLUTELY amazing how surfing has taken the water bugs by storm. Guess it figures, though. Surfing is easier, it is slower, steadier, and besides, it is something new. Surfboards used to be the craze 'way back in the 30's when people got their kicks riding the huge waves at Jacksonville and Daytona Beaches. But those were big, bulky, heavy boards that only the husky could tote. These modern-day boards are made of everything from thin plywoods to fiberglass and polyethylenes, and six-year-olds can carry 'em.

I haven't tried it myself, I'm too old and fat, but I understand it is quite simple, long as you can get behind the wake of a pretty good sized outboard moving at a slow speed. When you get your sea legs, you can ride one of these boards all day without the exertion needed for water skiing.

SKIN DIVING IS as much a part of the boating scene as is fishing . . . almost. Especially in Florida where the aqua probers can ply their trade year 'round, and have a variety of target areas to explore.

But native skin divers as well as those visitors who join us here in Florida for the enigmatic sport are sometimes confused as to rules and regulations concerning certain segments of the state . . . whether or not spear fishing is permissible . . . where restricted zones are . . . sites of old treasure laden vessels, etc. One of the finest guides we have seen to assist you deep water bugs is the Skindiving Guide edited by John Erving in St. Petersburg. A copy only runs a buck and you can get one by writing John at P. O. Box 11853 in St. Petersburg.

The Guide is loaded with "How To" and "Where To" and "How Much" information. It even covers areas of the Caribbean.

FLORIDA BOAT BUILDERS, probably taking a cue from the phenomenal success of the famous Boston Whaler, are building better mousetraps. More and more Florida builders are swinging to the triple-hull versions that promise better stability and softer ride.

One of the more popular triple-hulled crafts in Florida is the Thunderbird, and now a new fiberglass beauty is hitting the market in the Imperial Triple-Vee 19, produced by Imperial Fiberglass Products of Hialeah.

Modern boats are following their automobile counterparts in being wider, lower, and sleeker. The new triple, or cathedral hulls do offer more stability, especially in choppy waters, but I am not completely sold on the "trips" versatility being better for the average boatman. Though a better rough rider, I have found the cathedrals a little hard to handle, especially in tight quarters. This is certainly not a condemnation of the "trips," for they are beautiful craft, but unless you're gonna do a lot of fishing or other activities that call for extra-wide deck space, I'd just as soon have a deep-v hull that's easy to swing in tight quarters.

However, that's why they make 345 car models . . . differences of opinion and choice.

WITH THE ever-increasing number of boatmen taking to the waters in Florida, as well as elsewhere in the nation, two organizations who don't receive half the recognition to which they are entitled are offering more and more boating courses and driver information. The U. S. Power Squadrons and the Coast Guard Auxiliaries spend many hours each week offering free services on anything from basic piloting courses to aids to navigation.

Many Americans now feel the need for expert instruction in handling their rigs and local power squadrons and Coast Guard Auxiliaries offer many services to boatmen.

For example, a basic piloting course, free to anyone, whether he owns a boat or not, includes sessions on such subjects as equipment, government regulations, aids to navigation, rules of the road, and safety.

Advanced courses on boating, available to those who become Power Squadron members, include lectures on advanced piloting, seamanship, navigation, engine maintenance and weather.

Three excellent courses are offered free by the Coast Guard Auxiliary: 1.) Outboard Boat Handling; 2.) Safe Boating; and 3.) Basic Seamanship and Small Boat Handling. The first of these is a one-lesson course, designed primarily for outboard operators, with the main emphasis on safety. The second course features three lessons on elementary seamanship, aids to navigation and rules of the road. All of the above subjects are covered more comprehensively in an eight-lesson Basic Seamanship and Small Boat Handling course. Boaters who successfully complete this course are awarded the U. S. C. G. Auxiliary Basic Smallboat Seamanship Certificate.

If you're interested in taking these courses, write to the director of the local Coast Guard Auxiliary in your area. ●

CONSERVATION SCENE

(Continued from page 4)

The most recent tracts added to the Eagle Sanctuaries include 26,000 acres divided between two ranches, one in DeSoto County, the other in Charlotte County, owned by M. Lewis Hall of Miami. Two additional, tremendous areas are the Ocala National Forest, registered as an eagle sanctuary by the Forest Service of the United States Department of Agriculture, and the four State Forests, added to the Eagle Sanctuaries by the Florida Board of Forestry. In each case, the owner signs an agreement with the Florida Audubon Society to protect and safeguard all Bald Eagles and their nests, on his property, from shooting, nest-robbing, or other persecution, and agrees, so far as is possible, to guard them from danger by fire, or clearing operations. All these areas have been posted with appropriate eagle signs.

C. H. Coulter, State Forester, has been enthusiastic about this Eagle project for some time, and believes that because of it there is a fine opportunity to expand the Bald Eagle population in Florida. He says, "we are glad to cooperate with the Florida Audubon Society in this endeavor." The State forest rangers are keeping a record of eagles and also active nests present in their forests.

Sighting-in Days

A PROPERLY SIGHTED-IN rifle or shotgun increases the chances of successful hunting, produces more clean kills and enhances the enjoyment of hunting, according to the National Rifle Association, a non-profit membership organization recognized as the governing body for shooting in the U. S.

Sighting-in, or determining where an individual weapon shoots at various distances, gives sportsmen an opportunity to refresh themselves on the fundamentals of safe gun handling and good marksmanship.

Hunters who attend NRA-sponsored Sighting-in Days at their local ranges learn the capabilities of their rifles and shotguns, with various types of ammunition.

Public Shooting Ranges

A COMMITTEE APPOINTED by the American Institute of Park Executives to study shooting ranges has concluded that park and recreation departments should establish shooting programs, according to the Wildlife Management Institute. Result of the committee's findings is an attractive and useful booklet, "Shooting Ranges: A Survey of and Manual for Park and/or Recreation Departments."

AIPE reports that its study was stimulated by the finding that some private gun clubs were closing their facilities because of suburban encroachments. "Many gun clubs fail to acquire sufficient land around their shooting facility in the beginning," AIPE observed. Because open space is limited around metropolitan areas AIPE urges that park and recreation departments provide the necessary shooting facilities.

Sportsmen also will be interested in the philosophy expressed by AIPE's President Norman S. Johnson in his introductory comments: "There are some who would have us believe that the placing of rigid controls on the ownership of firearms will prevent calamitous shootings. It would seem justifiable to place restrictions on the possessions of firearms by the mentally ill, alcoholics, drug addicts, and known criminals; however, it should be recognized that even the most stringent of restrictions will not eliminate the criminal's use of firearms.

"It would seem that rather than curtailing the possession of firearms with rigid controls, it would be far better to commence training our young people and adults in the proper and safe use of these weapons. Shooting is basic to our heritage and is a desirable recreational activity."

The booklet discusses shooting ranges, tells how to start shooting programs, details cost and facility needs, and considers all aspects of indoor and outdoor rifle and pistol ranges, trapshooting, skeet shooting, construction, lighting, and other factors. Sources of expert advice are listed and park and recreation departments offering shooting programs are named.

Copies of the booklet are available from AIPE at Oglebay Park, Wheeling, West Virginia. Single-copy prices range from $1 for members to $2 for non-members, with sizable discounts for quantity orders.

Recreation Area Inventory

FORTY-NINE CITIES and all sixty-seven counties in Florida have been asked to participate in an inventory of outdoor recreation areas being conducted by the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation of the U. S. Department of the Interior, according to Ney C. Landrum, Director of the Florida Outdoor Recreational Planning Committee.

The Bureau has requested the Planning Committee's assistance in conducting an inventory of all publicly-owned outdoor recreation facilities in Florida at the state, county and municipal levels.

Governor Farris Bryant, in a letter to the mayors of each of the cities with 10,000 or more population, and the sixty-seven County Commissions, urged the local officials to cooperate with the Planning Committee in the inventory. Bryant is chairman of the Outdoor Recreational Planning Committee.

The inventory will be invaluable to both the State and Federal governments in preparing their comprehensive outdoor recreation plans, and as a basis for federal assistance under the recently passed Land and Water Conservation Fund Act. ●

FISHING

(*Continued from page 9*)

some advertising for the Flatfish. The theory is that you play the fish gently, that the hooks are so sharp that if one comes out the chances are the fish will get hooked by another.

It works, of course. I've caught small bass so hemstitched by Flatfish they could hardly wiggle. Hard on the fish? Sometimes it is but the little hooks make small holes.

The user of light spinning tackle should note the ease of setting small hooks with a soft tip.

The small hooks aren't so good for holding fish away from cover. They bend easily but, even in such close quarters sometimes truss up the fish pretty thoroughly.

Most of the bass I catch on multi-hooked plugs have more than one set of barbs in them and usually part of the hooks are outside the mouth.

—

IT'S BEEN MORE than a year since some outboard motor companies announced reduced oil content for their fuel mixtures and, despite the fears of some diehards, I haven't heard of many motors flying apart.

By now it's pretty well established that reduced oil mixtures will work in a variety of outboard motors if everything is right.

Of course your problem is that your motor may be winding too fast, or that the oil isn't properly mixed.

So for the time being, most of us are simply confused.

—

AS LONG AS I CAN remember, fishing rod handles have looked the same. It's not necessarily best but who's tried anything else? I did do some fishing with a rod using a "hammer handle" shaped grip some time ago and liked it. But such "freaks" are a lot of trouble to make.

Cork is still the best grip I know of for wet hands.

Maybe he's out on a limb but a fellow named Finn Magnus (Magnus Oceanic Corporation, 100 Naylon Avenue, Livingston, N. J.) has introduced a line of rods with completely new handles. They look good and appear shaped for relaxed use. There are hand-formed grips and flat thumb rests. They're inlaid with cork-rubber.

Of course the handles not only have to be good; they have to overcome the tradition of a couple of thousand years. I'm going to try them. ●

MUZZLE FLASHES

(*Continued from page 7*)

The latest edition of the Stoeger catalog, "The Shooter's Bible," as it is perhaps better known, provides a guide to current gun prices and detailed technical descriptions, as well as furnishing interesting reading generally.

The Williams Gun Sight Company catalog and Bob Brownell's catalog contain a lot of information about shooting accessories and their specific application. My copies are well worn.

THE GUN DIGEST serves both as a guidebook to sources of supply, and good reading during TV commercials. An annual, its content is varied, always interesting. I read it from cover to cover and keep all editions.

Since I reload, I enjoy THE RELOADER'S HANDBOOK and THE HANDLOADER'S DIGEST. They contain a great deal of practical information.

Among the many monthlies and semi-monthlies that are delivered to my home, THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN and THE SHOTGUN NEWS provide fresh avenues of thinking. Unfortunately, space has not permitted me to keep all copies of THE RIFLEMAN received through the years, and continued possession of a copy of THE SHOTGUN NEWS becomes very unlikely, so great is the interest of friends in the countless thousands of firearms advertised for sale in the unique paper.

—

KEEPING A FIREARM in perfect condition in Florida's variable and humid climate is a problem—one that is seriously multiplied where several guns are owned.

For long-service protection of guns kept in cabinets or closets, or simply racked on the wall or stacked in a corner, I can confidently recommend Gard Anti-Rust Spray, Anderol Preservative for Gunsmiths and Collectors, Gun Guard and Rig, among the many modern products I have tested exhaustively.

For light, temporary application, where guns are used daily or fairly frequently, I like the combination of Silicote Gun Spray and impregnated wiping cloth; Sheath, or Ruste-Pruf. All three products cover metal surfaces uniformly, seem to enhance the appearance of blued finishes and are not objectionably greasy.

Very promising is XF preservative, a new product developed by Tom Rice, of Palm Beach. So far, it has proved excellent.

You don't *have* to do it, but it is a good idea to first wipe gun surfaces clean of acid-containing fingerprints, using dry Kleenex or gun wiping cloth, before applying the protective coating of choice.

For the job of really cleaning a rifle or shotgun bore, I rely on Rice's XF-10 solution, Outer's Lab. Gunslick Solvent, or JB barrel compound paste. Years ago, I relied almost exclusively on Hoppe's No. 9 and Fiendoil.

Cleaning rods? . . . Outer's Lab. "Imperial" grade stainless steel, or B&M rods of similar strong, high grade steel. Avoid flimsy brass, sectioned rods like a plague. ●

FLORIDA WILDLIFE'S FISHING CITATION

is available without charge, to any and all subscribers to Florida Wildlife Magazine, and their immediate families, who catch any of the fresh-water game fish of the prescribed species and size requirements. Citation, showing recorded date of the catch, will be mailed to the applicant upon receipt of the following application form that has been properly filled out and signed.

Only fishing citation applications received within 90 days from date of catch will be honored.

APPLICATION FOR FLORIDA WILDLIFE FISHING CITATION

The Editor, FLORIDA WILDLIFE
Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission, Tallahassee, Fla.

Date_____

Please send me the Florida Wildlife Fishing Citation with the inscribed data listed below:

Name (please print)_____

Address_____ City_____ State_____

Species_____ Weight_____ Length_____

Type of Tackle_____

Bait or Lure Used_____

Where Caught_____ in_____ County

Date Caught_____ Catch Witnessed By_____

Registered, Weighed By_____ At_____

_____
(Signature of Applicant)

CUT OUT AND SAVE THIS APPLICATION BLANK

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS
SPECIES

LARGEMOUTH BASS
.....8 pounds or larger

CHAIN PICKEREL
.....4 pounds or larger

BLUEGILL (BREAM)
.....1 ½ pounds or larger

SHELLCRACKER
.....2 pounds or larger

BLACK CRAPPIE
.....2 pounds or larger

RED BREAST
.....1 pound or larger

All fish must be taken from the fresh waters of the state of Florida, as defined by the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission. Fish must be caught on conventional fishing tackle, with artificial or live bait, in the presence of at least one witness.

The catch must be weighed and recorded at a fishing camp or tackle store within the state by the owner, manager, or an authorized agent of the respective establishment.

WATERFOWL HUNTING—The common formula: Mix a bit of crisp fall weather around a well placed duck blind; add in a scattering of duck decoys, and top off with an eager retriever. The results: Prime hunting season thrills for the waterfowler.

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